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### M. VON RAUMER IN ITALY.

THE distinguished traveller and author, whose name heads this notice, has just completed a new work on Italy, in which we find many statements of considerable weight and importance. It is evident that he must have had access to sources of high and authentic information; and, under such circumstances, we have thought that we could not better consult the feelings and interests of a mass of British readers than by laying before the public a translation of what M. Von Raumer says relative to the SULPHUR QUESTION, now at issue between the governments of England and Naples. We generally prefer more literary matter in our selection from books, and do not mean to neglect the writer in that respect; but, in the first instance, the light thrown upon a subject, the particulars of which have hitherto been little explained or understood, and which involves individual fortunes and national objects to a very considerable extent, has induced us to depart from our rule in order fully to elucidate this singular question.

Naples, 15th July.

In the recent negotiations for a change of the existing system, and the conclusion of a commercial treaty with England, all those prejudices have been again developed, and all those errors defended, which sound knowledge and extended experience have long ago refuted. The greater merit, then, attaches to that high state functionary who neither loses patience nor fails in courage in the task of cleansing this Augean stable, and leading his fellow-men to new and better paths. He has triumphantly proved, 1st. That the former treaties with France, England, and Spain, as well as the domestic privileges and bounties granted, were partial and prejudicial; and that trade had "progressed," not by their aid, but in spite of them. 2dly. That such treaties are unjust towards other powers, whose flags they scare away (to the prejudice of the productive classes), and occasion retaliation (to the prejudice of the merchants). 3dly. That it is at once unjust and absurd to seek to gain in trade by the injury of others, and by monopoly. 4thly. That in these times competition in taxation, chicanery, and overreaching, can never be made the basis of commercial treaties; but candour, regard to mutual interests, and genuine reciprocity.

If the Prince of Cassaro succeed for his country's weal, in carrying out these views, then that huge monster—the offspring of similar ancestors—the Sicilian Sulphur Monopoly, must die a deserved death. And the ascendancy which, with juster principles and greater activity, the Sardinian States now exercise over the Neapolitan declines.

Malta, 20th August.

You will, no doubt, remember the practice in former times of giving youths at school Latin exercises containing, purposely, every possible

error of orthography and syntax, in order that, by correcting them, they might learn how Latin must not be written. The same course appears to have been pursued at Naples in legislating on the sulphur trade of Sicily; it is clearly and abundantly shewn by the new regulations and contracts how, according to genuine knowledge and experience, affairs of this kind ought not to be negotiated and settled.

The contract between the government and the firm of Taix and Aycard, in particular, is a *monstrum horrendum, ingens, cui lumen ademptum*, such as will scarcely appear again in the modern financial history of Europe. Imputations of this kind are rare, but it would not be difficult to substantiate them.

When, a few years ago, the price of sulphur, the most important export article of Sicily, was depressed, from various natural causes, all the sellers complained (as usual), and many besought the GOVERNMENT to adopt some measure to raise the price and the profit. This error, of supposing that any government could regulate at pleasure the buying and selling prices of goods, was taken advantage of by mercenary persons, and a Mr. Taix submitted a grand scheme for affording relief to the sellers.

Undismayed at the rejection of this project by Sicilian commissioners on very good grounds, Mr. Aycard came forward with a second, and, finally, with a third; in which it was hinted, that it was foolish to permit the owners of the sulphur mines to exhaust them by overworking; the state should interfere to check such selfishness, and chase away the empty dream of free trade. The monopoly of the sulphur trade, conferred by nature on the island, ought to be secured and maintained against all foreign countries. It would be a blessing if Sicily produced but little sulphur, and obtained for this little a great deal of money. A commercial company alone could accomplish this desirable end, and Messrs. Taix, Aycard, and Co. were willing, out of pure generosity, to undertake this hazardous business; and, moreover, to construct roads, give alms, indemnify proprietors, and found a mineral cabinet in Palermo!

Arguments and decoys of this kind won and entrapped many of the ignorant; in other places other means were employed; but a discussion in full council was avoided, and the management of the affair intrusted principally to one minister. At the same time loud complaints were heard in Sicily about the meal-tax, which, in recent times, had been so much increased; and certain parties were importunate for a reduction of this duty, not from a sense of justice, or because its revenue could be dispensed with, but because then the *salto mortale* of founding a sulphur company would be inevitable.

Accordingly, there appeared, on the 27th June, 1838, a royal ordinance, signed by the minister, S. Angelo, the introduction to which runs thus:—"For the benefit of our beloved subjects, for the payment of debts in Sicily, to lighten burdens, to disseminate great wealth, and to call forth, in all quarters, public works, which the island so greatly needs (without giving ear to schemes of privileges and exclusive

rights), a contract has been entered into, for ten years, with Taix, Aycard, and Company, the principal clauses of which are as follows:—

1. As the great production of sulphur is the cause of all the distress in Sicily, the same shall be reduced from 900,000 cwt. annually to 600,000, or one-third.
2. The average produce of 1834-7 shall determine the amount of the two-thirds, beyond which, in future, no sulphur shall be brought above ground.
3. The price at which the company are to purchase, and that at which they are to sell, are to be fixed by authority.
4. They shall pay his majesty, annually, 400,000 Neapolitan ducats.
5. The owners have full and unlimited power to sell their sulphur to whom they please, and to send it whither they choose, should they not be disposed to let the company have it."

Thus favourable to free trade is the wording of the ordinance of the 27th June, 1838; but in the contract concluded by S. Angelo with Taix on the 8th August, a single short line is introduced after the words "have it," viz. "provided the owners pay to the company twenty carlines per cwt."

These are the main features of a contract which, I repeat, will scarcely find a parallel in the history of finance. Although it needs no comment, I cannot refrain from offering a few remarks:—

1. No doubt the quantity produced may exceed the consumption and the demand; then the prices decline, and this passing or permanent token serves to instruct the intelligent miner to circumscribe his business here or there, and more or less, or in the prospect of a favourable change in the market, not to circumscribe it at all. The circumstances and relations of persons and things are so exceedingly multifarious, that the individual alone can, in such a case, decide upon the proper course; it is gross and palpable folly to decide alike for all the numerous parties concerned. Every regulation of that kind rests solely upon caprice, and always effects too much or too little.

2. It is an error of the first magnitude to attempt to raise the wealth of a nation by legislating to diminish production and labour. The old fabulous practice of the Dutch, who were said to throw their spices into the sea to enhance the prices, has been repeated in our professedly enlightened days, and the principle carried out on a grander scale. The inference is, that the production of oil, wine, wheat, &c. will in turn be restricted for Sicily's weal,—all to create wealth, pay debts, &c. &c. &c. What wise magician, what recondite oracle, can have inspired or revealed the regulating principle of two-thirds and one-third? If an English minister had proposed such a measure with reference to the working of the coal-mines, he would have been deemed only fit for Bedlam.

3. One error leads to another. The average of three years is to determine the future extent of the trade, without reference to good or bad years, limited or increasing capital, and without liberty to "progress." As soon as the two-thirds, by pound and ounce, are brought above ground, the works are at a stand; yes, one-third of all the workmen are, for the public weal—for the increase of wealth, suddenly deprived of their bread, and will be driven by hunger to robbery and plunder. The govern-

ment itself has undertaken the task of forming an inexhaustible nursery and plantation of wretched beings and criminals; and their ill-gotten gains will be swallowed up by the expense of sending regiments of soldiers to Sicily for preserving public order. The further we go into details in this business, the more conspicuous does its utter absurdity become. Thus an American house expended large sums during the years 1834-7 in preparations for working some sulphur mines, but have yet got no returns. Thanks to this wise law, so must things remain with them for the future. There are but too many examples given of caprice, concealment, fraud, the impossibility of control, and redoubled injuries to the small proprietors.

4. How tyrannical and preposterous it is to fix the prices of purchase and sale for years in advance is known to every one acquainted with the A B C of national economy; and the company who think they have reckoned so well for themselves, will, at last, find that they have miscalculated! If, however,

5. They were to realise no profit, still the 400,000 ducats, which (to increase their wealth) are to be levied upon the owners of sulphur mines, would be a most unjust, and, beyond all measure, oppressive impost. But, perhaps, the most annoying and disgusting circumstance of all, is, that the projector of this law talks, with incredible hardness, of his hatred of privileges and grants, and lauds the perfect freedom of trade; while, by the twenty carlines per cent, he ensures a monopoly to the company, and renders free trade utterly impossible to every proprietor.

At the same time, the company know how to avoid purchasing at the prices fixed; search is making every where after sulphur, out of Sicily; and a discovery that has been made in Manchester serves for many purposes as a substitute. In spite of all their repentance and all their modifications, incompetent legislators will, in a short time, have so completely destroyed the staple trade of Sicily, that there will be no possibility of recovery for this otherwise wretched and discontented island. Averse as I am to join in the too-frequent complaints against authorities, yet here there is unfathomable ignorance; or else more culpable grounds may be assigned, which are talked of so loudly and with so much personality in Naples and Sicily, that I do not venture to report them. But the Sicilians themselves are not free from blame, for if we cannot ascribe to many a thorough knowledge of the true principles of political economy, still the experience so rapidly gained, and the outcry of the distressed people, should have enlightened them. Instead of which, not a few, even of the first families, returned thanks to the king, in a memorial, when in Sicily, for forming the Sulphur Company. If now ignorance, error, cowardice, flattery, venality, or all these combined, brought about this measure, certainly these stupid eulogists have no longer any right to complain; or the functionaries attacked may hold before them their own manuscript, like a Medusa's head, and laugh them to scorn. And if, in the meantime, their country and the people sink deeper and deeper, whom does it concern? Or those whom it does concern have no legal means of redress at their command, and the illegal they shun from fear of the laws.

Munich, 12th September.

If you combine the hints contained in my two last letters with what I have before stated here and there in a desultory manner, you will find many chasms filled up. After touching upon some general topics concerning Italy, it

would, perhaps, not be amiss to pass the individual states in review once more, and to call to mind their peculiarities, their present existence or non-existence. If we commence at the south, and with Sicily, we shall have to reproach the inhabitants with too much rather than too little patriotism. But this by no means diminishes their perception of the wants of the present, or their sensibility to them; on the contrary, the poetically depicted past appears in a twofold brighter light, and the gloom of later times is imputed to the Neapolitan government. As a proof to what an incredible and unjust height suspicion and reproach have been carried, I need only mention the following assertion, which gained credence with not a few, namely, that government purposely transplanted the cholera to Sicily to be revenged on, and to sacrifice, the inhabitants!

And if we entirely discard this offspring of fear and passion, yet we perceive, on all hands and in every degree, manifestations of the existing state of things, which, without an exception, shew deeply rooted disease. "If," say a great many, "the government do not exactly wish to poison the inhabitants, yet they would be glad to plunge them into poverty and wretchedness, to crush them to the earth in an unheard-of manner, in order that distress may induce blind subjection, or despair result in rebellion, which would serve as a pretext for excessive and capricious tyranny." "The government," say others, "is, though unaware of it, stimulated to these detestable measures by the Carbonari, who still exist in the kingdom of Naples. During the periods of former troubles Sicily was always a secure place of refuge for the kings, a rallying point from whence Naples could be recovered. But if, on the contrary, Sicily were opposed to her sovereign, and excited to hatred and insurrection, the Neapolitan revolutionists would be unencumbered, and have twofold power to carry out their schemes. They wish Sicily to make a commencement and prepare the preliminaries, that they may follow with convenience and security." All these views are combined with hopes or dreams of total independence of European revolutions, of aid from England, and, in some cases, of British dominion; which, in fact, might prove the best means of bettering the condition of this unfortunate island.

Ireland, the English Sicily, might start at such thoughts, yet peculiar causes of misgovernment exist there, and the future is far more hopeless for Sicily than for Ireland. The more I reflect with feelings of sympathy upon the subject, the more completely I am lost in doubt and obscurity. Such multilateral and total reform and regeneration as Sicily stands in need of is doubtless impracticable. The peasantry, the citizens, the nobility, the priesthood, the conventual system, the government, the constitution, all must be changed, radically and totally changed, be cast into a refining furnace, a purgatory. Every one is sensible of this and recommends it to his neighbour, but is unwilling to take it upon himself.

The most incomprehensible of all, as the most culpable, is the government, of which I have before given a few instances, selected as the most striking. The modern history of Europe presents many examples of ill-adapted, irrational, criminal forms of constitution, and has induced many to place their sole reliance on a good government. But whoever desires to witness the sufferings and the ruin that ensue when all and every form of government is wilfully laid aside, and an ignorant, mercenary bureaucracy occupies the throne, should

go to Sicily. Not that there is a total absence of intelligent and disinterested statesmen, of praiseworthy schemes and useful measures, but a man must be more than a Hercules to cleanse this Augean stable.

That all this is endured, that there is not a general and determined resistance, must not be ascribed to patriotism, confidence, piety, conscience,—but to fear that the Sicilian rabble, once let loose, would know no moderation in revenge and retaliation, but would plunder and massacre even those who incited them against the detested Neapolitans. This, according to the admission of the Sicilians themselves, is the present aspect of affairs in Sicily.

In Naples, owing to the more volatile character of the people, things look less gloomy; and besides, the Neapolitans stand to the Sicilians in the light of rulers and leaders of the fashions. But the fact, that even here there is scarcely one individual who approves, respects, and defends the government, is something so painful and distressing to an interested observer, that it requires all the charms of that exquisite climate to make one forget it for a few hours. But then the opposition between the works of the Creator and the works of man becomes doubly conspicuous, and sounds like an unresolved discord in the harmony of nature. There is, however, a remarkable difference between the views of the elder and younger Neapolitans. The former were once persecuted, and suffered from various revolutions; they, therefore, desire repose, and are grateful to the government that procures them this, even by culpable means. The young men, on the contrary, have no immediate acquaintance with the olden times; consider it no merit in government that they are not persecuted; think that the attempts at reform were foolishly set about, and live in the conviction that they could manage matters more prudently, and reach the goal. At all events, the probable gain is greater than the loss to be apprehended. This party increases daily, while the former declines. Placed between both, the government has no determined course, no fixed object, thinking, by means of the police (which operates only negatively, and on individuals) to preserve or restore the health of the whole community. There is, in the laws and their administration, so much that is unconnected, crude, and contradictory, that it is very difficult, or rather impossible, to find out the why and the wherefore. Add to this (as is stated) an unfortunate aversion of the government to distinguished talent. Burke was perfectly right when he said "mere talent inclines to Jacobinism." Instead of being exercised in practical activity, it is always superseded and forced to discontent. This dread of genius, this preference of feeble mediocrity, is the more prejudicial, as Naples is by no means wanting in very distinguished and learned men. From their forced elevation, however, many mistake mere passion for inspiration, and imagine that their skillful pliancy render firmness and character unnecessary. And yet the Neapolitan history, in particular, shews, most obviously, that without these neither individuals nor a nation can become great.

If revolutionary outbreaks are prevented in Sicily by fear of the domestic rabble, in Naples the fear of the Austrians is an additional check. "In the whole history of the world," said a Neapolitan to me, "there is nothing grander, wiser, more temperate, or more admirable than the Revolution of Naples in 1820." This prodigy the Austrians have destroyed. But even those

who deem this prodigy an absurdity do not thank the Austrians for destroying it. The government, especially, are ashamed of their weakness, and that they owed their preservation and reinstatement solely to foreign power. Certainly the Austrians will not tolerate an army in revolt, or revolutionary constitutions in southern Italy; but it is unreasonable to maintain that they require, or introduce, irrational measures, which would be quite at variance with what they have so laudably done themselves in the kingdom of Lombardy. Such, for instance, is the unhappy tendency to centralise and to model Naples and Sicily in one mould; the direct opposite of the practice of the Austrian government in their dominions.

"We," said a high Austrian functionary, "are quite unable to exercise any wholesome influence whatsoever upon Naples; the government would pay more deference to suggestions from the Dey of Tunis than to ours." Thus they think to shew independence and self-subsistence, and at the same time use the Austrians as a scarecrow against those who are justly malcontents.

#### REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

*Emily; or, the Countess of Rosendale. A Novel.* By Mrs. Maberly. 3 vols. London, 1840. Colburn.

"O! THEN I see  
Queen Mab(ery) has been with you,"

must, we suppose, be our accepted motto, when we approach this feat of Fashion's midwife. Very pretty women ought not to put on blue stockings; their natural attractions are more than sufficient for triumph in this ugly world, and it is intolerable to add this tyranny of literary talent to their chains: we allow them to be personal to the extent of their beauty, but agreeably to a fair distribution of power upon earth, they ought, in conscience, to leave it to the homely and ill-favoured to put forth the claims of genius to our homage and allegiance.

But, after all, a fashionable novel may be committed without any gross stretch over the domains of fancy. It need only be a sketch of manners such as they appear to the writer, and if executed in a likely and lively manner, it is all that the readers of such productions require. For them, therefore, the story of *Emily, Countess of Rosendale*, and her compeers, will be the book of the hour. It is the performance of one whose station in society has afforded her opportunities for observing what she has undertaken to draw; and we have but to regret, if the picture be true, that the subject has furnished so little to admire in the circles of life to which it relates. The heroine and hero are, of course, nonsuchers, and they have about them two or three tolerable pippins to keep them company; but the rest are a sad set of frivolous and vicious characters. With them a residence at a noble country-seat, a *déjeûné*, or a ball, are like nothing we ever heard of but the assemblage of beasts in Noah's Ark, where they met for no other purpose but pairing. And order of doing so seems wonderfully unsettled. Lord M— wants to pair with widow B—; Colonel F— wants to pair with Lady M—; widow B— wants to pair with the hero, and he wants to pair with Emily, and so does Mr. F. M—; whilst Mr. R— wants to pair with Lady F—, and she with somebody else; so that throughout the chapter there is a continual sequence of flirtations (the soft word for dangerous incom-

pleted intercourse), intrigues, and amours. We will not venture to pronounce that this is or is not the actual state of matters among the upper ranks; but we are inclined to suspect that with them, as with the middle and lower orders, there is a division into two classes,—the free and easy lapsing into the vicious and criminal, and the right-minded and correct rising into an habitual exercise of all the higher virtues that belong to and adorn our common humanity.

With these general remarks, we shall say very little of the details of this novel. Mrs. Maberly's veneration for small hands and feet is among the peculiarities which have struck us. Heaven help the suitor for her good opinion who should walk up to her on splay soles or lumbering pedestals; for she speaks (p. 37) of hands and feet which were "small, and had the appearance which only *high-bred hands and feet* can have." Now, high-bred hands are intelligible to us; but *high-bred feet* appear to us a sort of inversion of the order of nature, as if we walked on our hands, or stood on our heads.

A vulgar family of the name of Robinson are contrasted with the Quality; and, as usual in such cases, the *parvenus* are exaggerated portraits. People worth half a million nowadays find it easier to get into all but the very *élite* of the Corinthian orders than heretofore; and we would say that, with the exception of a very limited and select society (and that, too, fast vanishing into the surrounding earth-born clouds, irradiated with the brilliancy of wealth), there is no place, from the Opera House and rural *fête* to the throne-room and Almacks, which Plutus has not the means to penetrate as effectually as Jupiter. The sisters of the Robinson family are facsimiles of those in the household which boasted a Cinderella; and in Ellen, the youngest, and the Cinderella of the same, we have a trait not unworthy of "The Rovers of Weimar."—"I never saw you before! Let us swear eternal friendship." In the modern instance it runs thus:—

"Emily looked from the masses of blonde and satin to the trembling and blushing girl before her, and a suspicion of the truth flashed across her mind. 'She has never been out yet; but she is a good girl, and as great a comfort to her father as ever man was blessed with,' replied Mr. Robinson, with a feeling of honest, affectionate pride, that went straight to Emily's heart. She took Ellen's trembling hand, and, saying a few words in her own sweet tone, good-naturedly made room for her on the sofa by her side. Poor Ellen was nearly overcome by this little act of kindness; she was so unaccustomed to any thing of the sort; she never expected the least attention from any one. At last she ventured to raise her eyes to the face of the beautiful creature whose sweet words had almost dissipated her fear; and as she looked upon her, Ellen's grateful heart swelled almost to bursting; she felt at that moment that she could have died for her."

For a seat on a sofa! But we have noticed that the Robinsons were caricatured. For example, when they give a grand dinner:—

"Mrs. Robinson, far removed from such sober conversation, was in her glory. Seated by Colonel Marsden, who, with his usual placid smile, was swallowing her bad champagne and worse compliments together, she was perfectly satisfied that every thing was quite right. She neither knew nor heeded what the dinner was, so there was plenty of it, and the table literally groaned beneath the weight of the massive *épergne* and candelabras, and the number of dishes with which it was crammed, until

scarcely a vestige of the tablecloth was visible. But she knew that she paid her cook and her butler much more than any one else did theirs, and that she had ordered that no expense should be spared, and a splendid dinner sent up; and what more could any one do?"

Upon which we would observe, in defence of the rich commercial classes, that they are as likely to have good champagne (a blessing in its way) as the oldest peers of England; and that, if they pay their cooks and butlers the best wages, these worthies, however vulgar or ignorant their masters or mistresses may be, know their duties, and value their *honour* and reputation too much to disgrace themselves by serving up a rabble tavern entertainment: nor would the hostess, in conclusion, press her visitors to supper—yet it is here so represented:—

"Emily, taking advantage of the first moment of repose she had been allowed to enjoy during the evening, sat down by the neglected Ellen, who, on receiving a hint from Mrs. Robinson, had withdrawn from the vicinity of the commerce party; which, indeed, she felt no inclination to join. Emily continued talking to her and Mrs. Belmont until her carriage was announced; and, resisting Mrs. Robinson's entreaties that she would stay to supper, at length accomplished her departure, completely wearied and worn out by the festivities of Myrtle Hall."

But there are points above all male authorship, and we must acknowledge above male criticism. For instance, the heroine's appearance on this occasion:—

"She was plainly, but not what Miss Belinda Robinson had been pleased to call shabbily, dressed. Her gown of pale pink silk fitted her exquisitely proportioned figure to perfection. A light fall of blonde relieved, while it did not conceal, the beautiful contour of her neck and shoulders. She wore but few ornaments; a single row of pearls upon her neck, while another partly confined the rich brown hair which fell almost to her shoulders in large curls of glossy softness. Bracelets of pearl clasped with diamonds set off her beautifully rounded arms; and her glove—that most generally neglected part of an Englishwoman's dress, fitted her so nicely—was so well put on, that it neither concealed nor disfigured the delicate little hand it covered. All this was duly examined by Frederick, who was a great connoisseur in ladies' dress. He could not deny that in that particular there was nothing to find fault with;—at least, he need not be ashamed of her as his wife; and this idea went far to reconcile him to the fate to which he concluded he must one day resign himself."

Who would not, and with pleasure, to a lovely girl who could attire herself in such a style? Why, half of it would have settled the soul of any reasonable man.

As our rule is not to break into the plot of works of this kind, we must be content to add that some of the characters are painted with talent and discrimination. Colonel Marsden, the villain, is one specimen; and his equally cold-blooded, heartless son, is another. The latter, in particular, is the representative of a class of young men, whose early lives are given up to the pursuit of pleasures, the best of which are but silly toys; and the worst, such as spread misery and wretchedness among the victims of their lawless and remorseless arts. There is some excuse when feeling and generosity do their utmost to alleviate the distress; but when there is only a gratification of vanity or lust, followed by an utter disregard of the consequences, every honest hand should be



armed with a whip to lash the villain naked through the world.

For the rest, we quote an example:—

"Lady Frances Germaine was one of those women who, pretending to be *intacte* themselves, hesitate not, should they fancy they discover in any of their friends the smallest symptom of preference for any one, to tear her to pieces immediately—to see more than ever could be seen, or had been seen, in her conduct, as improper—to denounce her directly to all their acquaintance as 'a horrid woman,' quite unfit for society; but at the same time to appear themselves in that same society, regularly escorted by their own favourites, to whom they pay devoted attention. To be sure, 'it is only a cousin,' or 'their husband's particular friend,' or 'their particular friend's husband;' and there is nothing in it—it is quite absurd to talk about such people. Lady Frances, in common with a great many others, forgot there might be a beam in her own bright eye. Incapable of liking any thing but herself, she had never been the object of a real attachment, but was always attended by one or two dangles—men, more remarkable for the fineness of their cambric, the smartness of their coats and their cabs, and the innate conviction of their own self-importance, than for any distinction of worth, intellect, or acquirements. She had for some time past made up her mind that Colonel Fitzmaurice in every way suited her, and that he would look well in her train the following season. No two people were ever better matched. He felt not the slightest affection for her; but she was a handsome woman, very well placed in society—intimately acquainted with all the great people, cabinet ministers, &c., for whom he entertained the most profound respect: and then, she had a good house; old Germaine gave capital dinners, had the best wine in London, and turned out his carriages and horses to perfection. Colonel Fitzmaurice had therefore decided that it would look very well to give himself all the airs of a *liaison* with Lady Frances, and actually had gone the length of stopping her barouche, more than once, just opposite Stanhope Street Gate, in hopes that the group of idle friends who sat lounging there, with their hats on one side of their heads and their legs on one side of their horses, might imagine and perhaps accuse him of having 'cut out' some other admirer."

Such is the general tenor of this novel; and we leave it to those who love to pore over the reports of court dresses on drawing-room days, the reports of indiscretions, elopements, &c. which sometimes find their way into the newspapers; and, in short, the reports of all the doings and misdoings of the fashionable world,—here they are wrought into a connected and consecutive story, with the intelligence and tact of a near observer.

*Travels to the City of the Caliphs, along the Shores of the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean; including a Voyage to the Coast of Arabia, and a Tour in the Island of Socotra.* By J. R. Wellsted, Esq. F.R.S., &c. author of "Travels in Arabia." 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1840. Colburn.

THE whole of the first, and above a hundred pages of the second volume, are occupied with the travels and adventures of Lieut. Ormsby, whose notes and relations have been licked into literary shape by an editor whose own travels in Arabia had established for him a popular name. Lieut. Ormsby is an example of that set of devil-may-care English youths,

whose ardent spirit of enterprise prompts them to undertake the most perilous expeditions, not simply for the sake of seeing the world, but, apparently, for the pleasure of seeing it under the excitements of privation and peril. As stolen waters are said to be sweeter than other unforbidden springs, so, we suppose, there must be an extra enjoyment in traversing countries where danger besets every footstep, and it is so hard to get a dinner or a supper, that the traveller is as often postponed as he is gratified. Perhaps Mr. Ormsby was intrusted with some mission; but, if so, it is kept secret, and we are merely informed—

"It is a singular fact, that a small service like the Indian navy should have, in one and the same year, seven midshipmen, four of whom have traversed more of the East than probably the same number of individuals alive.—Ormsby, Lynch, W—, and, may I add, the editor of these volumes. We now lived together: our days were passed in the manner I describe; our evenings were usually passed smoking and drinking coffee at the house of some mutual acquaintance. Rustom Beg and I lived in great harmony, and I was fast improving under his tuition, when, lo! one morning I went to his room, and found it untenanted. Furniture there was none at any time, not even the luxury of a carpet; he always slept on the bare floor. I, therefore, inquired of the janitor of the khan if he knew aught respecting him, and I learned, with not much surprise, that he had risen early, saddled his mare, purchased some grain for it, and a few loaves of bread for himself, which he placed in the nosebag of his horse, and had then ridden off, he knew not whither. A week elapsed, and still there were no tidings of Rustom Beg, and I had given up all hopes of seeing him for years, when, one morning, while I was seated sipping my coffee in the gateway of the khan, who should ride up but my friend, pale and emaciated. His burnoose and sword had disappeared; and the horse, which before was sleek, fat, and playful, now hung his head droopingly, and was a perfect skeleton. Our greeting was most cordial. A meal was soon provided, and after he had satisfied the cravings of his appetite, a matter neither hastily nor easily accomplished, he related his adventures:—'I had,' said he, 'found myself out of sorts that morning, and thought a trip to the desert, to visit a sheikh of my acquaintance, would put me in order. For three days I journeyed without meeting any one. I now found the encampment of my friends, who treated me with their usual hospitality, and I passed a day with them. On the following morning, returning by myself towards the city, I was met by a party belonging to another tribe, who without any hesitation fell upon me. I had nothing left but to dash through them. One I cut down; at the same instant I received a wound in my sword-arm. A passage was now, however, opened to me: but one horseman, as I dashed by, grasped my burnoose. The shock nearly unhorsed me, but I left a portion of it in his hands, and was away, with the whole party in full gallop in the rear. The fleetness of my horse saved me, and here I am.' He bared his arm, and shewed me his wound, which was a deep gash; but his strong constitution, aided by his plain diet, enabled him soon to get over it."

Again, near Kerbela, the story goes:—

"Large quantities of rice and other grain are reared in the vicinity of this town. As the stream here is rapid and narrow, the only way of passing it is by means of tracking; for the wind, if fair at this season, is scarcely ever of

sufficient strength to carry the vessel against it. I was in hopes at first that the passport of the British resident would have formed some protection to me; but they no more heeded that than they would have done a firman from the Grand Signior. Their first contributions were levied on our trackers, who were successively deprived of their turbans, their sandals, and their waistclothes. They now walked on board, and helped themselves to whatever they required: 'Your uncle wants it,' was the only reply I could get to my remonstrances against such unceremonious appropriation. Resistance, however, would have been madness, and, in the course of an hour, fire-arms, cooking-pots, and every item of provisions, had disappeared; our clothes in which we stood alone were left us. Highly exasperated at their losses, it was with much difficulty I could keep the trackers to their work, and when we arrived at Lemlum they all deserted. Here, therefore, was I left without a crew, or any means for the present of prosecuting my researches. Fortunately, some gold sequins, which I had concealed about my person, enabled me for a time to obtain the necessities of life; but these were fast vanishing, when I was one morning unexpectedly joined by a fellow-countryman, who, under the designation of Dervish Ali, was travelling in these regions. His real name was Elliot, but he affected the character his former designation implies for the better furtherance of his views. Of a wild and roving disposition, he had traversed the greater part of the East, and had lately employed himself in sketching the ruins of Babylon. An itinerant singer and story-teller accompanied him. The dervish was not better provided with funds than myself; and at length it was resolved that we should pay a joint visit to the sheikh, and request his assistance to procure trackers for the river. On our way to his residence we found the people hurrying to and fro in great confusion, and upon our arrival at the sheikh's residence, we found that the town on the land side was about to be invested by some Bedovins, who were perceived marching against it. He was consequently very busy giving the necessary directions, and when we approached and stated our errand, he cast a rapid glance over us, told those around him we were suspicious-looking dogs, and ordered us to be imprisoned until he had leisure to investigate the matter. I attempted to remonstrate, but he would not hear a word: his followers seized and conducted us to a miserable hovel, into which we were rudely thrust, and a guard of Arabs stationed at the door. As these men cooked and carelessly sipped their coffee, they placed their matchlocks beside them, and intimated very intelligibly that they would shoot any one who attempted to escape. Elliot's friend, the singer, was the only man left in the boat, where he remained during the night undiscovered, but next morning great was our surprise to observe him rush into the hut, his face covered with blood, his clothes tattered, and otherwise a piteous-looking object, to claim our protection. After he had somewhat collected himself, we found that at daylight, feeling very hungry, and not knowing what had befallen us, he landed to procure some food and ascertain our fate. From his not wearing a beard, the people in the bazar took him for a Sunnee, with whom they were then at war, and imagined he was a spy. At first they were for stoning or cutting him to pieces, but finding, after some questions, that he belonged to our party, and was professionally a singer, and not

a warrior, they contented themselves with beating him most unmercifully, and then driving him before a crowd of boys to join us. The singer displayed little meekness under his afflictions; and at first I was fearful he would not confine himself to the volley of abuse and imprecation he levelled at the head of the dervish, as the author of all his misfortunes. Elliot was, however, impenetrable to such an ebullition—he listened to all with a truly Mahomedan indifference, and, when the singer's wrath had subsided, read him a lecture on the folly of intemperate and passionate behaviour so totally unbecoming a true believer. Never was a man better calculated to deal with the natives than was poor Elliot. After some hours' confinement we began to feel the pangs of hunger, and our guards, after we had implored for some time, brought us some cakes of bread and dates, to which Hadji, by pledging his turban, had obtained in addition some coffee and tobacco. With these and some of Hadji's tales, we contrived to make the time pass very tolerably. The firing was continued during the night, accompanied by the shouts and yells of either party; these, as the morning broke, approached nearer to us, and more than once, when the balls whizzed past us, I observed our guides [guards?] looking over their shoulders. Sleep was out of the question, so we sipped our coffee and laughed at the fears of our guard, although noways indifferent, either to the present state of affairs, or to their probable result: should the besiegers succeed in taking the town, Heaven knows what our lot might have been. The sheikh on the following morning gave battle just without the walls to the enemy, who, it appears, during the night, had, on more than one occasion, effected an entry within them. Several wounded men continued to be brought past our hut; one had his thigh-bone shattered with a musket-ball, and had moreover a ghastly wound in his head. As he was borne along, he implored in hurried and feverish accents for water: I seized a jar, and without any opposition from my guards handed to him. The dying man drank, and bestowed with almost his last words a blessing on the hand of the Christian who had relieved his sufferings. Our state of suspense was at length put an end to by the arrival of a troop, who came galloping along to announce that the Lemlum people were the victors, and that their foes had retreated to their deserts. Some hopes were now entertained of our release; and, accordingly, a few hours afterwards we were summoned into the presence of the sheikh, and after numberless questions had been put to us respecting the nature of our employment, with the answers to which he appeared to be satisfied, we were told to quit the town forthwith. But this, I endeavoured to explain, having neither money nor men, was not easy to be done. His answer was brief and characteristic: 'That,' said he, 'is your affair, not mine: depart to-day, or look to your heads.' There was no appeal from, or evasion of, such a decree, and the few hours left us were busily employed in endeavouring to find out how this could best be done. At length we incidentally heard that a Persian merchant resided here who had been formerly attached to the British residency; to him we therefore bent our steps (sad and slow), and after narrating our tale, succeeded in obtaining an hundred dollars—giving him in exchange a bill payable at Bagdat. Relieved now from all our anxieties, it was determined we should lay in a stock of provisions, and feast 'right aerillie.' When we quitted the town, two sheep, a basket of bread, vegetables, and an

abundance of fruit, were purchased, and marshalled by us on asses to our vessels. Scarcely, however, had they been placed on our decks, when a party marched on board, and, with their usual cry, 'Your uncle requires it,' walked off with the whole. The dervish was furious, the hadji resigned. 'Fate,' said he, 'can do no more—let us therefore quit this accursed place!' and this, with the five or six half-starved villagers we had hired for our service, we at length effected; nothing interrupting our course to a small village on the western banks, distant thirteen miles in a S.E. direction from the scene of our late disasters. The Bedowins here are of the tribe of Agyl, and are principally engaged as mercenaries in the pay of the pacha, a vocation they have followed from a very early period. Under the banners of the Moors who entered Spain, they are said to have greatly distinguished themselves, and those who returned to their own country brought with them tales of their conquests and the vanquished, which are still repeated by their descendants."

We quote another specimen:—

"I paid a second visit to Damascus some months after the former, and found a considerable change had taken place in the politics of that city. For many centuries it had stoutly withstood the impost of any taxes, when Selim Pacha was directed to replace my old friend (who proceeded to India), and, as the price of his appointment was to carry into effect certain *ad valorem* taxes, a rebellion was the result, and Selim took shelter in the castle where he was starved, for the time, into an abandonment of his designs. It was, however, but for a time, for he had no sooner collected together a party, than he again endeavoured to enforce the same measures. Nothing less now than his life would satisfy the infuriated townsmen, and one morning they rose simultaneously, and marched to his dwelling. Selim and his adherents defended themselves bravely; one by one his followers fell, until at length he was left alone; retiring then to a small apartment furnished with a massive door, he for a long time resisted the utmost efforts of his foes to force it. Here he continued to fire through one of the apertures until twenty-three are said to have fallen by his hand; his bullets were now expended; collecting, therefore, all the powder (it was in a magazine) into a heap, he placed upon this his cushion, and there seated himself to await the moment when they should force the door. By the aid of fire, this they at length effected—it burst open. 'Benim' (enter), said the pacha, coolly turning his pipe over on the powder, and in an instant he and some hundreds of his foes were blown to pieces. The matter was now ended, and on the following morning the mutilated fragments of the pacha's corpse were very diligently sought for. Some were found, and being placed in a coffin, were then borne, followed through the city in great pomp by the inhabitants, to without the walls, where it was buried with every decency and solemnity. 'Singular,' said I to an old Arab, who was relating this to me some months afterwards, 'that you should thus first murder a man, and then subsequently pay so much honour to his remains.' 'You speak,' said he, 'as one whom the Prophet hath not enlightened. Is it not written in the blessed book, that with the approach of death all hatred should cease?' I have already mentioned the fray I got into during my first visit to this city; I encountered far more risk on my second. During my stay at Tyre, not knowing of the late disturbances, I had agreed

with another gentleman to return and pass some weeks here; scarcely had we entered the city, than from our dress, which unfortunately resembled that worn by the instructors in the Egyptian army, we were pronounced to be spies; at first we heard their suspicions breathed in whispers; a crowd soon collected and followed to watch our movements. My friend, poor Langton (now alas! no more), suggested that we should at once face about and declare who we were. We did so, but in an instant were torn from our horses, and a fierce debate arose whether or not we should be put to death on the spot. Fifty swords were unsheathed in an instant to put this into execution, when it was suggested that it would not be proper that the streets of the holy city of Damascus should be polluted by the blood of such 'foreign swine,' but that we should be led without the town and there stoned to death. This party bid fair to carry the day, for after about an hour's debate, we found ourselves hurried along in that direction. Death I had faced too often to feel otherwise than a Christian and a soldier at its approach; still there was something in being thus led forth by these stern fanatics, to die the death of a dog, which required no common energy with the dignity of a man to meet it. Neither Langton nor myself, however, spoke a word: at first he had drawn a pistol from his girdle, but, at my most earnest entreaty, had thrown it from him. There was one man with a florid complexion, light grey eyes, and white mustachios, who had bared his arm, and with delight expressed on his countenance, was amusing himself with brandishing with naked arms the usual crooked dagger which the Arabs wear, as near as he could without actually wounding us in our faces. At length we arrived at an open spot, and two stakes were sent for and driven in the ground. Already with cords in their hands had they approached to bind us to them, when an old Moolah, with a venerable white beard, advanced and called for silence; in an instant all was hushed. 'You seek,' said he, 'the lives of these men because you apprehend they are spies from the Egyptian army; but,' raising his voice aloud, 'is there no one here who recognises,' pointing to me, 'Khalil Aga, the Englishman, and friend of Mustapha Pacha, our late governor?' Fortunately for me, I had been well known there: several stepped forward and identified me. It was now my turn to speak. I said but little, merely intimating that the English and French were now, as ever, a distinct people, that we had no connexion with them, or with the Egyptian army, but that we were two English gentlemen, under the protection of the British resident, and as such, although we were but two, and that our lives might be taken with the same facility as they might crush a fly, yet I bid them remember we were of a nation that would exact an ample reparation for any injury that might befall us; that, in fact, for every hair of our heads would a life be demanded. I believe my words, added to the Moolah's, produced some effect, for the mob began gradually to steal off, and left us alone with the Moolah and his party. 'This is no place now for you,' said he; 'they have but to meet some opium-eating fanatic, and he will bring them quickly back, therefore mount these horses,' bidding two of those near him to get off, 'and ride for your lives; the money for them you can transmit me from Tripoli, the amount I leave to you.' We pressed the hand of our kind and venerable friend, and were soon away in the

direction of Tripoli, with all the speed we could gain from our horses. I was not displeased to hear, some months after this event, that Damascus had fallen before Ibrahim Pacha, and that Christians now enjoy the same respect within the walls as in other parts of the East."

Such is the staple of Mr. Ormsby's revelations, which, it must owned, contribute more to our entertainment than to the supply of information respecting these countries. Of useful remark, &c. we shall speak in our next.

*Stephen Dugard, a Novel.* By the Author of "The Five Knights of St. Alban's," "Nubilia," &c. &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1840. Bentley.

THERE is much of talent and originality in this work. The story is well connected and well told; and though the incidents partake of the melodramatic, we really see so many extraordinary things in actual life, that we begin to doubt whether the marvellous or the commonplace ought to be considered the exception to the rule. The first two volumes merit most approbation; for the third contains such minute descriptions of appalling murders that we cannot say we are gratified by supping so full of horrors. Elsewhere we have stated that we never destroy our readers' relish for *dénouement* by previous intimation of the intricacies of plot, and, therefore, we shall select as examples of this production a few of the passages which, we think, fully sustain our favourable opinion of it:—

"It is commonly said listeners never hear any good of themselves; and the notion has been propagated, no doubt, from the laudable desire to deter over-curious persons from hearing to what their friends may chance to say of them. But would not listeners very often hear what is good for them? Doubt it not. Our best friends are never so candid, our worst enemies never so explicit, as when they wait till our backs are turned."

Here is the portrait of a vastly agreeable woman, who acts a prominent part in this drama:—

"Sanguinary, irascible, vindictive, Jennet M'Blee never made an enemy and forsook him willingly until she made him a sacrifice. Capable in herself of all crimes, all crimes found in her a head to contrive, a hand to assist, a tongue to conceal. The common property of the crew she herded with, the companion of their orgies, the witness of their deeds, the slave of their humours, the victim often of their ferocious passions, every vestige of what is distinctively woman in heart, mind, feelings, and affections, was utterly blotted from her soul. She would outwear the most blasphemous, outlie the most perjured, outwit the most crafty, outcrawl the most quarrelsome, or outface the most shameless. Yet a soft tongue and a smiling lip could lead her as gently as the bridegroom leads his bride; but cross her, and the chafed hyena is not more fierce, till a smooth phrase, a blithe look (and sometimes a bottle of Scheidam for her own locker), appeased her fury. Kilvert was the only one who could always manage her; partly because he was a favourite,—partly because he never flattered or reviled her,—but most of all because he had that in him with which she knew it dangerous to trifle, added to a certain quality of command that received obedience as a due rather than enforced it as a right."

We have said that the repetition of murders has somewhat revolted us, but there is a painful force in the accounts which rivets the mind.

For instance, the assassination of two witnesses on their way to give evidence. The murderers "continued their route till they came within five or six miles of Black Rock, and then entering a wood, of nearly two miles in extent, for the purpose of avoiding the main road, Kilvert ordered them to halt. The natural gloom of the place was increased by the approaching shadows of evening; and, to Stephen's imagination, by the work they had in hand. 'Here let it be done,' said Kilvert. Black Kenneth was the first to begin. Fastening his horse to a tree, he took one of the spades, and proceeded to dig in the spot pointed out by Kilvert. Grim Lawrence followed, and every one in turn was called upon to lend a hand, Stephen and Mayfield relieving Kilvert and Mat Henwick. In less than an hour a grave of several feet deep was excavated; and into it the body of Rutherford was thrown, together with the bloody cloth which covered it. But now came the more terrific scene of this awful drama. Kilvert, without speaking a word (and the same profound silence was maintained by all), collected the pistols, which he placed upon the ground, and then, taking off his own coat, spread it over them. They were laid completely out of sight, behind the mound of earth which had been thrown up in digging the grave. 'Now,' said he, when every thing was ready, 'it shall not be thought I have a better chance than the rest, as I mean to be the first to draw. Come here, squire,' beckoning to Stephen, who advanced with a faltering step. 'Let me bind this handkerchief over your eyes, and then Mayfield shall lead you to the pistols. Change the position of every one, but without lifting the coat, or putting your hand under it. You cannot then place your own where you can find it again, nor can I know in what order they will lie.' This was accordingly done. After which, Kilvert, with his eyes bound, was conducted to the heap. He drew forth one, and stuck it in his belt. Stephen shook in every limb when it came to his turn. At length there remained only the last; and then, upon examination, it was found that no one had drawn his own. Whose, then, was the last? Black Kenneth's. He took it up, cocked it, and went towards the miserable being whose very minutes were now counted. 'Stop!' exclaimed Kilvert. 'Give him time to say his prayers if he is able.' Poor wretch! He had slept away the fumes of the treacherous drink sufficiently to know all the horror of his situation; to know that his grave was yawning before him; and that he was on the brink of eternity. He awoke under the rough grasp of Kilvert, who untied the cords with which he was fastened, and stared wildly about him as he was dragged off the horse. The first word he uttered was the name of his companion, friend, and fellow-servant. 'You are to die!' said Kilvert. He had reeled before, as he endeavoured to gain his benumbed legs; but, at these words, he suddenly stiffened into an attitude of pallid horror. There was light enough to see the band by whom he was surrounded, and the dark grave at his feet, and the blood-besmeared features of his companion lying in it. 'I am here to die!' he exclaimed in a voice scarcely articulate. 'For what?' 'It concerns you more to know that you are to die than to know for what,' replied Kilvert. 'If a minute will bestead you to send up a short prayer to Heaven, use it so; if not, prepare.' He dropped upon his knees, and, with frantic gestures, implored them to spare his life. At this moment

Bli Gonzalez approached behind, and, slashing his knife across his eyes, exclaimed, 'Ned Dymar sends you that!' The shriek of the wretched man was frightful. He fell upon his face, when black Kenneth stepped up, dragged him close to the edge of the grave, supported him with one hand in a half-erect position, with the other directed the muzzle of the pistol close to his heart—fired—let go his hold, and the mangled body dropped upon that of Rutherford! Whether he was quite dead they did not trouble themselves to ascertain. The next minute they set to work, and filled up the grave. It was a scene fraught with horror. The shriek of the murdered man, as Gonzalez wantonly mutilated him—the startling echoes of the pistol-shot through the surrounding forest—the heavy, sullen sound of the body as it rolled into the grave, and the stifled death-groan which faintly followed the ball that pierced the heart—still rung in the ears of Stephen, who had shrunk trembling behind Kilvert, unable to look at the bloody business. He felt he was a murderer! What that feeling is, in the freshness of its first awakening, there is no form of speech dark and terrible enough to express."

We now copy a brief but fine sketch of a good character:—

"He was, indeed, one of those characters which it might almost be thought Nature had intended for some purer sphere, but, escaping from her hands, had accidentally wandered into this. All his feelings, all his opinions, partook of this origin. They were not derived from the world, and were scarcely applicable to it. His morality was not of that elastic kind which adapts itself to the dimensions of the offender. Vice was vice with him, unchanged and unchangeable, whether clothed in purple or rags; whether it betrayed itself in his dearest friend or most despised enemy. He laughed at the prostitute virtue which dwells only on a glib tongue. Yet he was no day-dreamer, no seeker of visionary perfection; he did not expect the brightness of heaven in the dim ways of the earth. Nevertheless, though he was content to take man as he is, with all his capacity for what is noble, and all his proneness to what is vile, he was every hour disgusted to observe how he cast the former behind, and wallowed gratuitously in the latter."

Altogether, *Stephen Dugard* possesses character and interest to recommend it to readers who love these ingredients; and mixed up, too, with a tale of considerable excitement.

*A Summer in Brittany.* By T. A. Trollope, Esq. B.A. Edited by Frances Trollope, author of "Domestic Manners of the Americans," &c. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1840. Colburn.

ONE would think that an individual who had advanced to the degree of a Bachelor of Arts, and had rambled through a foreign country for months away from the protection of his mother, might have written an account thereof without calling in the aid of mamma. Mr. Trollope, however, with becoming diffidence and filial piety, having deemed it proper to invoke that assistance, we can have no fault to find with the name of his able and distinguished parent on the title-page of his book.

That book, no matter how concocted, offers much of agreeable and interesting matter, but has the fault of dwelling too much on indifferent details. Every day's movement of a pedestrian even through *terra incognita* would be too much, and when his route lies through more frequented places the descriptions become same and tedious.



With this one objection, we can truly state that there is much in these volumes to entertain the reader, and in proof select the following passages, without caring for introduction or order. Our review is, indeed, a mere miscellany relating to Brittany.

*Fair-day among the Bas-Bretons at Collinée.*

—“With their immense black hats, their long streaming hair, and quaint square-cut coats, they looked more like men belonging to some forgotten century than aught that could be living in the present age. They were dressed almost invariably in cloth of a reddish-brown, something between a claret and chocolate colour. Business of all sorts was going on briskly. Here, a restive little cow, with its owner, holding tight a short rope attached to its horns, would push the crowd right and left in their progress through the street at a good round trot, the result of the cow's strong desire to run away at a gallop, and her master's equally strong wish to proceed at a sober walk. There a woman was beating a drum, to call the attention of the public to a large collection of human teeth, which her husband, the doctor, professed to have extracted with the utmost skill; an operation which he was again ready to perform for those who needed it, for the consideration of one sou. In another place, an itinerant haberdasher, with his whole stock of tapes, bobbins, &c., tied to the end of a long pole, from which they depended in many a tempting festoon and long streamer, held his wares high above the heads of the gaping crowd, whom his eloquence, Autolycus-like, had collected round him; nor did he lower his rod, so that the eager hand of the purchaser might reach and select the desired article, and pull it from its moorings to the bunch above, till he had fairly secured the customer's sous beforehand. There were plenty of quack-doctors offering remedies for every ill that can afflict man or beast, and several vendors of crucifixes, rosaries, little waxen saints and virgins, and similar trumpery. But what surprised me more than all, by the singularity and novelty of the thing, were the operations of the dealers in hair. In various parts of the motley crowd there were three or four different purchasers of this commodity, who travel the country for the purpose of attending the fairs, and buying the tresses of the peasant girls. They have particularly fine hair, and frequently in the greatest abundance. I should have thought that female vanity would have effectually prevented such a traffic as this being carried on to any extent. But there seemed to be no difficulty in finding possessors of beautiful heads of hair perfectly willing to sell. We saw several girls sheared one after the other like sheep, and as many more standing ready for the shears, with their caps in their hands, and their long hair combed out and hanging down to their waists. Some of the operators were men and some women. By the side of the dealer was placed a large basket, into which every successive crop of hair, tied up into a whisp by itself, was thrown. No doubt, the reason of this indifference to their tresses on the part of the fair Bretonnes, is to be found in the invariable ‘mode’ which covers every head, from childhood upwards, with close caps, which entirely prevent any part of the hair from being seen, and of course as totally conceal the want of it. But at least, thought I, it is a comfort to find that these poor girls possess, and can turn into money, an article which must be worth a sum of considerable importance to them. I inquired, and learned afterwards, the terms upon which a girl submits her head to the shears; and how much does the reader

guess is the price thus secured as a little dowry? The highest value given by these abominable hair-merchants is twenty sous; and the more usual consideration by far is a gaudy, but trumpery, cotton handkerchief, worth about twelve or sixteen sous, of which these gentry carry about with them a stock for the purpose. The profit thus netted by these hair-mongers, during a tour through the country, must be enormous. In similar scenes elsewhere, so in Brittany also, as the business of the fair grew slack, the fun grew thick; and, as this fun consisted almost entirely in drinking, the whole village became, as night drew in, one motley scene of noise and confusion. Preparations, both for eating and drinking, were by no means confined to the houses. Numerous fires, shewing themselves and the figures of those around them with most picturesque effect in the rapidly increasing darkness, might be seen along the sides of the streets, with each its presiding deity, in the shape of an old crone, preparing some savoury, richly steaming dainty. The cooking apparatus was a very simple one; merely a large circular iron plate, some twenty inches in diameter, supported over the fire on four legs. On this were placed the various tempting morsels—a few sausages, or a scrap of bacon, or, perhaps, even a choice atom of ‘jambon’—which first seduced the passers-by themselves, and then leading, like all temptations yielded to, from one to another, served as ‘shoeing-horns to draw on a pot of’ cider. This favourite beverage was found at every turn. Innumerable hogsheds, each on the tap in the little cart that brought it, were sold out to the last drop by their proprietors, and the quantity consumed must have been prodigious. In the houses, the more expensive luxuries of bottled beer, *café noir*, and brandy, were not spared. Both within and without, as more and more by degrees the liquor got uppermost, the Babel roar of tongues became tremendous. Several *gend'armes* were patrolling the village continually; but, though the most vehement abuse and most energetic scolding were abundant, no blows were struck, the contending parties, in every instance that I witnessed, confining their warfare most scrupulously to taunts, invectives, and the most frantic gesticulations.”

Further on we are told:—

“In the more remote parts of the country we never found any charge made for beds. Our accommodation at Collinée certainly was not worth any very large sum; but I have slept in many an excellent bed without any charge being made, or the least expectation on the part of the hostess of receiving any thing. Sometimes, in inns of rather superior pretensions, it was hinted, that if we liked our beds, ‘*la bonne*’ would be grateful for any small mark of our approbation.”

Cannot the following be nearly matched—Ireland?—

“We learned, in the course of the evening, that there was to be a large ‘pardon’ on the morrow, at Pleyben, a little town about six miles south of Braspars. In Brittany, a ‘pardon’ is equivalent to a wake in England, a ‘*fête*’ in France, or a ‘keremese’ in Flanders. It is the village festival, and usually takes place on the day consecrated to the patron saint of the parish. Like every other circumstance in the life of a Breton peasant, these pardons are connected with religious observances; and the term arises from the idea that certain ceremonies then and there performed by the frequenters of them obtain a certain pardon for their sins. These pardons have very different aspects at different places. In some villages,

where there happens to be a celebrated relic, or where any peculiarly popular saint presides, the pardon has retained its religious character and features. But in others it has become a mere village festival, celebrated generally by observances any thing but religious, and considered, even among the peasants themselves, as meetings which the young, especially of the more tender sex, should not be over-anxious to attend too frequently. It can hardly be necessary to remark that this caution on the part of the old folks scarcely occasions any pardon to be unattended by the far greater part of all the lads and lasses in the neighbourhood. They are decidedly of opinion that, if their seniors are virtuous, that is no reason that there should be no more cakes and ale. Nor does it often occur that any thing worse than a day's idleness, and perhaps a taste for dissipation, ensues to the young ‘*paysannes*’ at these rustic merry-makings. The gallantry of the rural swains is rarely carried to any very dangerous lengths; and if a *faux-pas* be made, it is generally mended by a marriage. A deliberate and practised seducer would be visited with the general indignation of the country to the full as heavily as the victim of his treachery, and a rustic Don Juan would soon find himself driven forth from among the primitive society of this old-world country. It must be clearly understood, however, that these remarks apply only to the rural population of the villages. That of the towns, I have reason to believe, is, in this respect, as in others, profoundly immoral. And in the immediate neighbourhood of the largest, it is, I conceive, by no means rare, for the ignorant, unsuspicious, young *paysannes* to become the victims of systematic seducers. The period of maidenhood is, among the Bretons, that of freedom, gaiety, and amusement. Their habits and ideas, in this, as in some other points, resemble ours much more than those of the French. A French writer on Breton manners remarks that one thing only is wanting in Brittany to render this as harmless there as it is in England—videlicet, a ‘Breton Gret-na-Green’! It is infinitely amusing to find that our neighbours consider the privileges to be there obtained by fugitive couples as the safety-valve, which alone renders innoxious the freedom of our manners. But if the young women of Brittany consider the years before marriage to be those of enjoyment, of pleasure, and in some degree of license, they look forward to that great event as the certain close of all life's lighter and gayer pleasures. The marriage state is looked upon as one of privation, of submission, of care, and of labour. Even the stronger vessel looks back with some degree of regret upon the easy carelessness of life, which at his marriage he is about to lose for ever, and contemplates, with sombre seriousness, and almost with misgiving, the duties, the cares, and the responsibilities, he is going to undertake. These sentiments are manifested in an extraordinary and interesting manner in the songs of the bride and bridegroom commonly sung at marriage festivals. M. Souvestre has translated into French a specimen of that of both the man and the woman. The latter is, as might be expected, the most true and the most touching; and I will, therefore, content myself with translating that only. It will be sufficient to shew the feelings with which marriage is contemplated, and the poetry with which their language and warm imaginations can describe them.

‘The Song of the Bride.

‘In other days—in the days of my youth—how warm a heart I had! Adieu my companions, adieu for ever!’

'I had a heart so ardent! Neither for gold, nor for silver, would I have given my poor heart! Adieu, my companions, adieu for ever!

'Alas! I have given it for nothing! Alas! I have placed it where joys and pleasures are no more. Adieu, my companions, adieu for ever!

'Pains and toil await me. Three cradles in the corner of the fire! A boy and a girl in each of them! Adieu, my companions, adieu for ever!

'Three others in the middle of the house! Boys and girls are there together! Adieu my companions, adieu for ever!

'Go, maidens! run to fairs and to pardons! but for me I must do so no longer! Adieu, my companions, adieu for ever!

'For me, see you not, that I must remain here! Henceforward I am but a servant, girls; for I am married. Adieu, my companions, adieu for ever!

Such, among this singular people of sombre and gloomy temperament, is the song of the bride, sung in the midst of the nuptial festival and revelry. Its effect upon the company assembled is extraordinary. The melancholy silence which follows it is broken only by the sobs and cries of the women. For they know that the young bride's description of married life is just, and their tears flow for themselves as much as for her. The grand occasion and scene of all those pleasures to which the young wife so affectingly bids adieu is the village pardon. That is the great opportunity for love-making and courtship, and dancing and finery, and laughing with her equals and companions, and all that a young girl best loves. All the *beau-monde* of Braspars was going to the pardon at Pleyben the next morning; and we determined to go too, though our intended route was exactly in a contrary direction towards Morlaix."

Another picture of the country will please the reader; and with it we conclude:—

"I met at Quimper, in Finistere, an old colonel, who pointed out to me, in the market of that town, men in the dress of peasants, who had been through all Napoleon's campaigns, and had risen to the rank of captain in the army; but who had in every respect returned to the manner of life of peasants, the instant they were able to retire, and return once more to their native communes. Their locks, as many as time had spared, were once more suffered to stream over their shoulders; they adopted the peculiar dress of the peasants in that part of the country; and most of them endeavoured to forget the language they had been compelled so long to use, or, if that were impossible, at least refused to speak it. These circumstances may give the reader an idea of the light in which the conscription is viewed in this part of France; and the anxiety of the poor old farmer of Tregastel for his son's return will be easily understood. When we at length quitted his hospitable though lowly dwelling, he insisted upon accompanying us to Tregastel to shew us the way. We passed on the road another old man, ragged and filthy, basking in the sun under a rock, an admirable picture of a Breton Silenus. He accosted us, and perceiving that we did not understand him, made signs, which we understood to imply a request that we would bestow on him wherewithal to buy food. But our guide explained to us that he was inviting us to come and eat at his house, and told us that he also was a farmer, and proprietor of the little bit of land he cultivated. We declined his invitation, on the grounds of having just partaken of his neighbour's hospitality; and, as the steeple of Tregastel was now visible on the top of a slight hill before us, we bade adieu to our kind guide, and left him talking to his neighbour. From Tregastel we walked in a southern direction towards the site of one of those large and famous cities, of which such frequent mention is made in the old Breton legends.

It is between Lannion and the mouth of the Guer, that immemorial tradition has fixed the site of the ancient city of Lexobia. It is a very curious thing that no less than five or six opulent and flourishing cities are spoken of as having existed in ancient Armorica, which have perished from the face of the earth, and left no trace of their ruins upon the soil. Of the famous cities of Ys, Tolente, and Occismor, the mere name survives. The sites of their former existence even are doubtful, and a fruitful subject of dispute to the Breton antiquaries. Of Lexobia, indeed, it is said that certain foundations of walls and the entrance to a vault may yet be discovered at a spot near the village of Coz-Gneaudet, and that these are sufficient to fix with certainty the position of the town.

"A Breton can rarely be said to be 'overtaken by liquor;' for he almost invariably enters upon a drinking bout with the full intention and purpose of getting drunk. It is the only enjoyment he knows; and the only temptation which induces him to swerve from the rigid economy which regulates his usual mode of life. It is the vice not of any particular age, profession, or sex, but of the nation. A fond father teaches his child to get drunk; and does so himself, in company with his wife and family. The first lesson in drunkenness usually accompanies the first donning of the manly 'bragon-bras.' The father or elder brothers make it a point to celebrate this auspicious event by plying the child with brandy till it drops senseless. Sometimes a whole cart-load of human beings, consisting of one entire family, old men, young men, women, and children, father, mother, sons, and daughters, may be seen returning from the town dead drunk together; having been there for the express purpose of becoming so, fixed beforehand and determined on, and looked forward to as a party of pleasure. I never have myself seen such a party as is here described; but I make the statement on the authority of M. Souvestre, who, in his notes to Cambray, asserts that he has; and much that I have seen leads me to believe that his picture is not exaggerated. It is odd that the sacred plant, the mistletoe, should be selected as the sign of the scenes of such excesses. For the name by which it is known among the peasants seems to indicate that the old idea of its sanctity has not been lost, though, as in so many other cases, it has been connected with a new object. They call it 'tounzon ar groas,' the herb of the cross,—an appellation which, no doubt, was given by the early teachers of Christianity, with a view to transfer the veneration paid to it to the cross, which they very probably decked with boughs of it."

*The Early History of Freemasonry in England.* By James Orchard Halliwell, Esq. F.R.S. &c. Pp. 45. London, 1840. Rodd.

THIS is a very curious little book, and well deserves the attention not only of the antiquarian, but of every one interested in the history of the manners and customs of our forefathers during the middle ages. Freemasonry is a mysterious subject, and its antiquity in the sense we now give to the word might easily be made a matter of long, and, probably, unsatisfactory discussion. The singularly interesting poem which Mr. Halliwell has here brought to light can hardly be considered as a monument of freemasonry, but it contains allusions to legends and other things which were at a later period more or less interwoven with that brotherhood.

We know how the members of the different trades and crafts in the middle ages formed themselves into incorporate companies, for the sake of mutual protection and aid. The poem printed by Mr. Halliwell from a MS. written in the fourteenth century, contains the rules to be observed by the craft of masons, which it states to be the "moste oneste craft of alle." Masonry is here stated to be otherwise styled geometry, and to have been invented by Euclid "yn Egypte," to occupy the time of the children of lords and ladies, that they might not remain idle. The craft came into England in "good Kynge Adelstonus day," who—

"Made then bothe halle and eke bowre,  
And hye templis of gret honowre,  
To sportyn hym yn bothe day and nyght,  
And to worschepe hys God with alle hys myght."

The "constitutions" which compose the main part of this poem, relate to the qualifications and behaviour of the "mayster masons" and of their apprentices, and some of them are very remarkable. The master mason is admonished to take no bondman for an apprentice;—

"For the lord that he ys bonde to,  
May fache (fetch) the prentes whersoever he go."

The master masons are strongly warned against supplanting each other, or interfering in each other's work. Other articles forbid them to work at unseasonable hours, or under the regular charges. Another injunction to the mason is expressed as follows:—

"Thou schal not by thy maystres wyfe ly,  
Nor by thy felows, in no maner wyse,  
Lest the craft shold thee despaye;  
Nor by thy felows concubynne,  
No more than thou wolddest he did by thynne."

The last clause does not speak much for the morality of the fourteenth century. It is also worthy of remark, that the master mason is directed to pay his men for their wages in proportion to the price which food produced at the moment:—

"And pay thy felows after the coste,  
As vytayles goth thenne, wel thou wost."

In the introduction to this poem, Mr. Halliwell has given an abstract of the curious legends connected with the supposed origin of geometry and masonry; and the tract closes with some interesting observations on the antiquities of what we now understand by the name of freemasonry. It is a tract which we can safely recommend to our readers.

*Ystradffyn, a Descriptive Poem; with an Appendix, containing Historical and Explanatory Notes.* By Mrs. Bowen. Post 8vo. pp. 189. 1839. London: Longman and Co. Llandoverly: Rees.

THIS poem (with such an unpronounceable name, that if we went to the publishers' we should almost be afraid of asking for it) is an attempt to describe the beautiful scenery of South Wales, and is for the most part done in a very ladylike and elegant manner. It also contains a few slight sketches of ancient Welsh manners and customs, and ends with a very melancholy love-tale, which is, however, very sweetly told. The fair authoress has not brought clearly to our view the pictures of mountain and valley, the deep winding road, the grey ruin, moss-covered rock, and headlong torrent. She hurries along too rapidly, and dashes her colours about with too careless a hand to leave behind those faithful and striking impressions which bring the scenery at once before the eye. In a word, and in plain English, it is a failure. The work she has set about does her great credit for the intention, but the execution required the hand of a genius, and genius is



now a rare quality amongst our new poets. The beauties of Wales have yet to be reflected in poetry, although in the present volume they are as well described as other scenes have been in similar works, for the book is not unreadable; as a proof, try the following extract:—

"So still their rambles they pursue  
With lofty Dinas full in view,  
The crumbling rock, with moss o'ergrown,  
The crystal streamlet trickling down,  
The rushy swamp, the crisped heath,  
Cracking the hasty foot beneath;  
All these are past! before them lie  
The scathed rock's rude majesty.  
Masses immense, promiscuous hurld,  
Speak the convulsions of a world,  
Which sequent centuries have dressed  
With shrubs, and herbs, and mossy crest.  
And now a rifted rock is nigh,  
Yawning before the wand'ring eye,  
Whose broad dark sides on either hand,  
Like high embattled ramparts stand.  
With careful steps they upward wind,  
And soon a narrow entrance find,  
That just admits them one by one,  
With form convolving\* to the stone.  
Lofty, though narrow, is the cave,  
And o'er its top wild branches wave,  
And on its tall sides, smooth and bare,  
Full many a carved name is there!  
Names of the present and the past,  
Which thus beyond their date would last."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*Truth, what is it? and Opinion, what is it not?* Pp. 160. (Edinburgh, Fletcher.)—A metaphysical treatise, principally on taste, and of considerable talent and originality. Using his sense in appreciating our present nature and condition, it may truly be said of the author that he "allures to brighter worlds."

*Early Days in the Society of Friends, exemplifying the Influence of Faith in some of its First Members.* By Mary Ann Kelly, author of "Straightforwardness." Pp. 471. (London, Harvey and Darton.)—The writer has collected together a good deal of what we have read in earlier biographies, concerning George Fox, E. Burrough, Howgill, Isaac Penington, David Barclay, William Penn, and other worthies with whom the Society of Friends sprung up and flourished. The strange character of the times in which they lived, and their own remarkable doings and sufferings, exhibit much curious matter.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

## ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

MAY 25. Mr. Greenough, F.R.S. President, in the chair.—This being the ninth anniversary meeting of the Society, the annual report of the Council was read, which stated that sixty-seven new members had been elected, and twenty-five vacancies had occurred during the past year; and that the Society now consisted of 697 members, exclusive of foreign and corresponding members. At the evening meeting, the President delivered his anniversary address, and presented the two gold medals, constituting the royal premium for the advancement of geographical science and discovery, awarded respectively to Mr. R. H. Schomburgk, and Major Rawlinson, of the Bombay army, in the following terms:—

"Mr. Schomburgk.—By favour of her Majesty, the queen of these realms, the Royal Geographical Society is authorised to apply the medal now before me to the encouragement of geographical science and discovery; and it is in the conscientious discharge of the duty which has thus devolved upon them, that the Society has determined to place in your hands this honourable testimony of their approbation and esteem. Sir, in the arduous journey in which you were engaged during a period of five years, you faithfully complied with the instructions, and more than fulfilled the expectations, of your employers. Guided in the first instance by the footsteps of your illustrious countryman, Baron Humboldt, you afterwards visited a country in which no one had preceded you. An

\* "The entrance to this cave is through a narrow aperture formed of two immense slate rocks, which face each other, and the space between them is narrower at the bottom than at the top, so that the passage can only be entered sideways, with the figure inclined, according to the slanting of the rock."

important problem which he began to solve you have brought to its conclusion; and, by your joint observations, we have now astronomically determined a connected series of fixed points along a line extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Nor is it in this respect only that we recognise the qualities of your great predecessor. Like him, you are distinguished by the variety of your talents and the extensive range of your studies. The zoologist gladly recognises in you the discoverer and describer of several species of birds and fishes; the botanist, of many plants before unknown to naturalists. An account of your geographical observations, given in the order of their occurrence, is reported in our 'Journal'; and, in the work you have since published, and in which you develop the great and unexpected resources of British Guayana, you have rendered an important service to those of our countrymen who hold property in that colony. The map which you have constructed, and which the Society is about to publish, bears ample testimony of your ability as a physical geographer. The able and affecting appeal which you have made in behalf of large tribes of our fellow-men and fellow-subjects, with whose merits and sufferings we were previously unacquainted, has not been made in vain; and you are now about to return to the land of your former wanderings under the sanction of the government, not only to enlarge the boundaries of science, but to secure the interests of this country, and to vindicate the rights of humanity. We are well aware of the labours you underwent in your former journeyings—the privations you suffered, the perils you encountered: and in admiring that patient endurance, that undaunted spirit, that determined perseverance, of which we find in your late expedition such abundant proofs, we feel justified in entertaining the confident as well as earnest hope that, after the successful accomplishment of your new mission, you will return among us crowned with additional honours, and possessing still higher claims to our gratitude and respect."

Mr. Schomburgk, in reply, said,—

"Sir,—The distinction which the Royal Geographical Society enjoys among the scientific bodies in Europe, and the lead which it has hitherto taken in the advancement of geography, must render so honourable a testimonial as you have just now bestowed upon me a proud acquisition to any traveller; the more when he looks back to the distinguished travellers and discoverers, who, at a former period, received from this chair the royal premium. But to me it is an additional source of gratification, as it proves to the world that the researches which were carried on under the patronage and direction of this Society met with their approbation. I may, perhaps, be permitted briefly to recapitulate some of my labours in the West Indies. In the year 1831, I executed a survey of Aneгада and its dangerous reefs, by which, I trust, I have been the means of saving the lives of many of my fellow-creatures, and several vessels, from shipwreck. This survey brought me into connexion with the Geographical Society, and I subsequently, as related in its 'Journal,' explored the rivers Essequibo, Corentyn, Berbice, and investigated the capabilities of the rich and fertile colony of British Guayana. One of my discoveries during that period was the *Victoria Regia*, the most beautiful specimen of the flora of the western hemisphere; and it gives me much pleasure to announce to you, on this occasion, that after three vain attempts to convey living

specimens of this plant from the interior to the coast, I have just received information that five plants have arrived in good order in George Town, Demerara, and I hope will shortly reach England. I need scarcely say, that the first specimen that arrives will be placed at the disposal of her majesty, who has so graciously permitted this flower to bear her name. My subsequent journey to Esmeralda, the details of which have been communicated to the Society, enabled me to connect my observations with those of Baron Humboldt; and I am proud here to state, that it was the example set by that distinguished traveller that has led me onward through difficulties and privations of no ordinary nature, till I had the good fortune to accomplish the journey that you have been pleased this evening to crown with your approval. For myself personally, I do not feel that I have a claim to this high honour; let me, however, consider it as an encouragement to future exertions, and, although the path marked out for me at present in my future travels in Guayana is restricted to the limits of the colony, I confidently trust that I may obtain permission to extend them to the eastward, and also that I may make another attempt to the westward to reach the source of the Orinoco, by ascending the rivers Mocajahi and Catimani. To you, Sir, as President of the Society, I beg to offer my sincere thanks for the too-flattering terms in which you have conferred this distinction, which I shall ever consider as one of the proudest events of my life, and I trust that my future researches may prove me to have been not wholly unworthy of it."

The Chairman then turning to the late President of the Geographical Society of Bombay, said:—"Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm, in awarding to Major Henry Creswick Rawlinson, of the Bombay army, the Founder's medal for the year 1839, the Council of the Royal Geographical Society have been guided, not merely by the zeal, perseverance, and industry with which that officer has successfully explored the provinces of Luristán, Khúsistán, and Azerbaijan, and the valuable additions which, in his memoirs published in our transactions, he has thrown on our knowledge of the physical geography of that large and important portion of the mountain-ranges, which divide the basin of the Tigris from the elevated plains of Central Persia; but they have wished more particularly to give this mark of their approval and regard to the vast extent of learning and historical research which Major Rawlinson has brought to bear on the objects of his geographical inquiries. This officer has given, in the course of these memoirs, a bright and animating example of the manner in which the knowledge to be derived from books—and from books too, which, to the generality of English readers, are of the most recondite description—may be applied to objects of practical science, I mean to the improvement of our knowledge of ancient geography. Major Rawlinson has, in the course of his travels in Luristán and Khúsistán, verified various ancient routes from the Tigris, across the range of Zagros into Media; has identified the affluents of that river by a strict comparison of their ancient and modern names and courses; and has thrown great light on the towns celebrated in profane and sacred history, under the names of Sús, Susân, Shâster, and Elymais. In the province of Azerbaijan, the original seat of the fire-worshippers of the ancient world, Major Rawlinson has given us a clear and valuable description of the eastern and southern shores of the Lake Urumiyah, and of the country between that

and the shores of the Caspian. His researches into the probable existence of two cities bearing the name of Ecbatana, one of them in Atropatene, and the other in Media Magna, have given occasion to one of the most lucid and learned essays on the comparative geography of the world which have ever adorned the pages of the transactions of this or any other Society instituted for the promotion of either natural or historical knowledge. It is on these accounts, Sir, that the Council have been pleased to award to Major Rawlinson this medal; and I need not add what pleasure I feel in delivering it into the hands of the late President of the Geographical Society of Bombay, who, from his long and intimate connexion with India, is so well qualified to appreciate Oriental research, to echo our applause, and to convey to Major Rawlinson with greater feeling, and therefore with greater fidelity, than I now convey to him, the interest which we have taken in his past, and which we shall continue to take in his future, labours."

Sir Charles Malcolm, in reply, said:—

"Sir,—I feel that the selection which you have been pleased to make of me as late President of the Geographical Society of Bombay to receive the gold medal for Major Rawlinson will be gratifying beyond measure to that Society, as it will shew to them that they stand high in the opinion of the parent Society from which they emanate, and that there is on your part the warmest feeling of good-will towards them in their efforts to enlarge our geographical knowledge in the East. To me personally it will be a pleasing duty to send this honourable token of your approbation to Major Rawlinson, accompanied as it will be by the address you have just delivered, which has so clearly and justly brought before us his merits as a traveller; because I remember him well when he was a gay, high-spirited young man, apparently thinking but little of these pursuits which have drawn forth his talents, not only as a rising politician and a soldier, but also as one of the first comparative geographers of the age. There can be no doubt that the royal premium awarded to the adventurous and eminent traveller Sir Alexander Burnes, who now stands so high above the political horizon in the East, stimulated that officer in his rapid career; nor can I doubt but that it was also, in prospect, a strong incitement to Major Rawlinson as it will be with many others; and it will be a proud feeling for the Geographical Society of Bombay to see two of their members receive this honourable mark of your approval. In speaking of that Society, it affords me great pleasure to have an opportunity of bearing my public testimony to the exertions of its able and learned Secretary Dr. Heddle, to whom the Bombay Geographical Society is chiefly indebted for the position which it now holds; and I may here mention that another member of that Society, Lieutenant Wood, of the Indian Navy, is now in London preparing for publication his account of his journey into Khunduz, and to the sources of the Oxus; an outline of which he will give to the Society at its next meeting. In conclusion, I cannot but repeat my conviction, that the award of this evening will be a great encouragement to future labourers in the cause of geography in the East; and the recent act of liberality of this Society, in presenting a complete copy of the Geographical 'Journal' to the ten principal civil and military stations in India, cannot fail to excite a corresponding exertion on the part of the officers of the

Indian army and navy. Again, Sir, I beg to offer you, in the name of Major Rawlinson, my best thanks for the distinction which this Society has awarded to him, and for the flattering terms in which you have been pleased to convey it."

#### UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION.

MONDAY, 4th May. Evening meeting of the members, Major S. Clerke in the chair.—The following presents were exhibited:—Two ancient guns, or chambers of guns, of the time of Henry VI. of wrought iron, found in pulling down a house at Dover. Presented by Lieut. Worthington, R.N.—A model of a brig fitted with the revolving masts proposed to be used by Lieut. Molyneux Shuldham, R.N. The lower and top masts are composed of sheers, or four spars united at their apex, and revolve on a circular platform, to which the whole of the rigging is attached: the sails thus trim themselves by the action of the wind. Presented by the inventor.—A collection of Moorish articles of apparel, spurs, bridles, &c. Presented by Major E. Napier.—135 volumes of the "Encyclopédie Méthodique de l'Académie Française." Presented by Colonel W. Napier (the historian).—A model of a Welsh coracle, in which they fish for salmon, formed of tarred canvass stretched on a wicker frame. Presented by Rear-Admiral Griffiths.—A collection of Indian shells. Presented by Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm.—The following papers were read:—1. 'A Short Account of the Courbari, or Locust-tree, of St. Luci,' by Colonel H. Capadose, 1st West India regiment.—2. The first part of a series of papers 'On Heraldry,' by Wm. Berry, Esq. author of the "Encyclopædia Heraldica." Illustrated by transparencies. This introductory portion of the course was confined to the elements of first principles of heraldry, descriptive of the divisions in the shield and the characters of the honourable ordinaries. The ordinaries per fesse, per cross, per bend, per saltier, per chevron, per pale, &c. were explained and exhibited, and their origin attributed to the desire of perpetuating the numerous cuts across the shield, received in battle, as evincing prowess and achievements in hand-to-hand engagements. For instance, a cut from corner to corner originated "a bend;" from top to bottom, "a pale;" across the centre, "a fesse," &c. &c. The divisions, dexter chief, precise middle chief, sinister chief, honour point, fesse point, nombril, dexter base, exact middle base, and sinister base, were severally pointed out. The lecture was of great interest, and promised in its further development much gratification.

Tuesday, 5th May.—Mr. Pereira delivered the first of two lectures 'On the Phenomena of Polarised Light.' This interesting subject was ably treated, its peculiarities clearly developed, and its laws and effects made manifest by ingeniously contrived models, transparencies, &c. No one present could fail to appreciate the lucid exposition of the lecturer, nor to admire the gorgeous exhibitions of the polariscope; and all will at once agree with Sir John Herschel, who says that "the phenomena of polarisation of light are so singular and various, that to one who has only studied the common branches of physical optics it is like entering into a new world, so splendid as to render it one of the most delightful branches of experimental inquiry, and so fertile in the views it lays open of the constitution of natural bodies, and the minute mechanism of the universe, as to place it in the very first rank of the physico-mathematical sciences, which it maintains by the

rigorous application of geometrical reasoning its nature admits and requires."

#### LINNEAN SOCIETY.

(Anniversary.)

THE Bishop of Norwich in the chair.—H.R.H. Prince Albert was elected an honorary member of the Society. The usual reports were read. The Bishop of Norwich was re-elected President: the other officers stand nearly as heretofore. Among the members deceased during the past year are the Duke of Marlborough, who was distinguished for his botanical taste, and for his zeal in the cultivation of exotic plants, and the magnificent collection formed by him at Whiteknights; the Duke of Bedford, a munificent patron of the arts and sciences in general, and especially of botany; Lord Charles Spencer Churchill; Allan Cunningham, Esq., the eminent collector, who died at Sydney last June—he was distinguished for his moral worth, singleness of heart, and enthusiastic zeal in the pursuit of science; Davies Gilbert, Esq.; Dr. Goodall, the Provost of Eton; Don Mariano Lagasca, Professor of Botany, and Director of the Royal Botanic Garden at Madrid, Spain, long famed as the granary of ancient Rome, is known to surpass all other countries in the great variety of those grasses which are cultivated for human food, such as the wheat, barley, rye, and oats: all botanists will remember the extensive and interesting collection of Spanish *Cerealia* cultivated by Professor Lagasca in the garden belonging to the Society of Apothecaries at Chelsea. Among the foreign members, the Society has lost two distinguished names,—Professor Blumenbach, of the University of Gottingen, and Professor Jacquin, Director of the Imperial Gardens at Schoebrun, near Vienna. Seventeen fellows and four associates have been elected since the last anniversary. The report of the auditors was very satisfactory. The thanks of the Society were voted to Dr. Booth on his retirement from the office of Secretary; John Joseph Bennett, Esq. being elected to the office. In the evening of the same day the fellows and several friends of the Society dined at the Freemasons' Tavern.

#### PARIS LETTER.

Academy of Sciences, May 26, 1840.

SITTING of May 18th. — *Geology of China*.—A most interesting report, in the name of a commission, was read by M. Boussingault, on a memoir of M. Biot, jun., concerning the probable causes of the ancient deluges mentioned by Chinese authors; to which was appended a catalogue extracted from their writings of the earthquakes, uprisings, and land-slips, or subsidences of mountains, observed in the Celestial Empire. The utility of Chinese literature in elucidating the physical history of that part of the globe was pointed out, and the authority of M. von Humboldt quoted in his observations on the volcanoes of Central Asia. In the first part of this memoir the author examined the facts and traditions collected by Chinese authors relative to two great inundations which devastated that country, and the more recent of which took place in the twenty-second century before the Christian era. These M. Biot explained by the phenomena of elevation, the traces of which M. von Humboldt had pointed out in Central Asia. He remarked that the general direction of the chains of mountains in China coincided in parallelism with that of the great chain of the Cordilleras of America, whence he inferred a simultaneity of subterraneous action in those two extensive districts. This was further

supported by the similarity of the phenomena in China to those which occur so frequently in the new world. In Eastern Asia, as in America, the earth, after a long period of repose, seldom had only one shock of earthquake at a time, but almost always a succession of shocks at short intervals. The catalogue of earthquakes, M. Biot stated, was to be found in the 301st book of the great compilation of Ma-touan-lin, formed in the thirteenth century; this catalogue had been continued to the seventeenth century by other Chinese savans, and, by aid of the kind assistance of M. Stanislas Julien, he had not only been able to bring down the list to the present day, but also to add to it many accounts that had escaped the attention of the Chinese chroniclers. Some of the quotations read from M. Biot's memoir, the dates being arranged according to the Christian era, are as follow:—"Seventy-eight years before J. C. a new peak rose on Mount Tay-Chany; this peak was upwards of fifty feet high." "Seven hundred and eighty years before J. C., in the district of Ouey, a great extent of land became lengthened, and rose suddenly several feet." "In 1599 a mountain sunk, and a lake was formed in its place; in the midst of the flat country five heights arose." M. Biot's memoir pointed out the similarity between this last phenomenon and those of Jorullo in Mexico, described by Humboldt. "In 771, in the two districts of Heng and Ting, a shaking of the earth was felt for three days; in many spots the earth opened and black water came out." "In 1568, at Yo-Ting-Hien, the earth opened at many points, and torrents of water and black sand came out." "In 125, the Mount You-Toue fell down, and killed more than 400 persons." "In 634, in the northern Chensy, a mountain fell down and was reduced to fragments." "In 387, in the district of Ouey, a mountain fell, and the sun was darkened by the dust." Examples of similar phenomena in America were largely quoted in the memoir. The Academy ordered that this document should be printed in the "Recueil des Savans Etrangers."—"Two masses of native gold, one weighing five pounds and the other three pounds, were sent to the Academy by Count Demidoff, from his mines in the Oural mountains, being probably the two largest masses of this metal ever discovered.—A memoir was read from M. Maupou, on the advantage of lead being used for safety-valves, instead of iron or copper; these latter metals did not present the same strength of resistance at all parts of their surface when formed into plates for safety-valves, whereas lead was always found to bear equally. The only objection to M. Maupou's plan was, M. Arago observed, that it would be necessary to renew the valves, if made of lead, almost every day.—A memoir was sent in and read from Mr. Milne Edwards on the reproductive organs of *Cephalopodes*, *Carinaria*, &c. This gentleman, who, with M. Peters, a naturalist of Berlin, is pursuing his researches on the Piedmontese shore of the Mediterranean, has ascertained that there are two distinct sexes in the *Carinaria*, although they have hitherto been considered hermaphroditical. In the common sea-urchins, and also in the *Dendrophylia*, Mr. Edwards has recognised two distinct sexes.—The Academy has awarded Lalande's gold medal to M. Galle, the astronomer of Berlin.

*Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres.* Sitting of May 22.—The commencement of a memoir by M. de Berton was read, entitled "Essays on the Topography of Tyre." In this document the author traces out all the

principal changes of the topography of the place, as far as they can be made out, from the present day backwards, to the most remote periods of its history. The first part of the memoir contained a detailed description of the actual state of the principal localities; of which the following appeared the most remarkable points:—1. A vast necropolis called Adeloun, situated three leagues north of the Tyrian peninsula, and in which tombs are found similar in form to those at Petra. 2. A small monolithic temple, near this necropolis, and dedicated to Venus or Astarte. 3. A basin, or dock, on the south of the Tyrian peninsula, formed by exceedingly solid walls, and corresponding exactly to the haling slip mentioned by Diodorus Siculus. 4. An extensive reef of rocks to the west of the peninsula, and probably once forming part of it. 5. An immense mole, now under water, which seems to have closed in the port described by Strabo as the Egyptian port. 6. The extensive cisterns called Solomon's cisterns, and the aqueducts connected with them.

The *Académie Française* has awarded the Monthyon prize of 6000f. to M. Gustave de Beaumont, for his work on Ireland.

*Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.* Sitting of 23d May.—M. Mignet read a report on the memoirs sent in to compete for a prize on the Right of Inheritance among Females in the Middle Ages. He did not think that any deserved to receive it.—The Academy has ordered Dr. Lingard's memoir on the determination of the year when Anna Boleyn returned from France to England, to be printed in the "Recueil des Savans Etrangers." It has also given a prize of 3000f. to M. Flix for the best essay on the influence of the German Customs' Union.

*Academy of Fine Arts.* Sitting extraordinary of 23d May.—At this meeting the grand prizes for musical composition were awarded, after the performance of the pieces for which they were adjudged. The first grand prize was given to M. Bazin of Marseilles, a pupil of Berton and Halevy. The second to M. Baptiste of Paris, a pupil of Halevy. Mesdames Dorus-Gras, Stolz, and other cantatrices of eminence, together with Messrs. Duponchard, Derivis, &c., sung on this occasion. The exercises did great credit to their young authors.

The *Société de Pharmacie* has awarded a prize of 1000f. to M. Hervy, for a memoir on the best method of extracting indigo from the *Polygonum tinctorium*; and a similar prize to M. Frémy, for his method of extracting pectine acid from fruits. It is the pectine that forms the gelatinous substance of fruits.

M. Biot has been named Dean of the Faculty of Sciences of Paris, in the room of the late M. Poisson.—Professor d'Alton, of Bonn, died there on the 11th of this month.

The annual meeting of the Geological Society of France is to take place this year at Grenoble, on the 1st of September.

M. Persoz, Professor of Chemistry in the Faculty of Sciences at Strasburg, in the course of his lectures on chemistry applied to the arts, liquefied and solidified carbonic acid gas in the presence of his pupils a few days since, by means of an apparatus invented by M. Thilorier. In this apparatus, the gas prepared by the action of sulphuric acid on the bicarbonate of soda liquefies itself by its own pressure, and solidifies itself afterwards, in part, in returning to a state of gas. This substance, when solidified, appears in white flakes like snow. At the same sitting the professor used it thus solidified, to produce the same effect on ether, and

also on mercury. The latter metal was beaten out like any other metal by the professor.

M. Ducos, of Toulouse, announces the publication of the "Loix d'Amour," by Guillaume Molinier, being the complete code of the Troubadours. This gentleman is also about to publish a volume of poetical fables, of which the following is a specimen:—

"La Fourmi usurière.—Fable.

Chacun sait que la Fourmi  
N'est pas avare à demi.  
Pour servir, à sa manière,  
Ses amis dans le besoin,  
Et ne rien perdre à ce soin,  
Elle s'est faite usurière.  
La Cigale en désarroi  
Dut subir sa dure loi.  
Un jour elle se présente;  
La prêteuse était absente,  
Ayant quitté son comptoir.  
Pour quelque pieux devoir.  
La Cigale se ravise,  
Court aussitôt à l'église;  
Et là quel est son bonheur  
D'entendre un prédicateur  
Qui tonnait contre l'usure!  
Surtout quand elle s'assure  
Que la dévote Fourmi  
Au sermon n'a pas dormi.  
La pauvre attend qu'elle sorte,  
Jusqu'à son bureau l'escorte,  
Et lui dit:—Ma sœur, Avé!  
Comment avez-vous trouvé  
La morale de l'apôtre?  
"Il a bien fait son métier,"  
Répond l'insecte usurier:  
"Maintenant faisons le nôtre."  
La Cigale cut beau prier,  
On l'écoula comme une autre.  
L'un dit: il a bien prêché;  
Puis l'on revient au péché."

M. Amédée Thierry has just published his "History of Gaul under the Domination of the Romans," in 2 vols. 8vo. It is perfectly distinct from his "General History of the Gauls," and contains a full illustration of the political, and more especially the social, condition of the country during those periods.—The twenty-fourth volume of M. de Sismondi's "History of France" is just out.—M. Mandet has terminated a "History of the Civil, Political, and Religious Wars in the Mountains of the Velay during the Sixteenth Century." This work, which is in one vol. 8vo., throws great light on the history of Protestantism in France at that epoch.—We have heard favourable mention made of M. Courson's "Essay on the History, Language, and Institutions of Brittany."—The last number of the "Revue de l'Architecture et Travaux Publics," which is highly thought of by the scientific world, contains an admirably engraved plate of the Travellers' Club-house, Pall Mall, to the correct elegance of which edifice it bears due testimony.—We have had a circular prospectus sent to us of a work, the title of which is to be "Petite Biographie Poétique des Bêtes illustres!"—A curious history of the origin, improvements in, and management of telegraphs, has just been published by M. Chappe, of Mans, formerly Administrator of Telegraphs: it is styled "The History of Telegraphy."

*Sciarada.*

Del maglier France fra noi  
Il primiero c'è la metà;  
Come ho d' uopo del secondo  
Se vestirmi ho volontà.  
Senza il terzo tutto il mondo  
Saria sempre oscurità;  
E col quarto, oh Dio! sospiro  
Se dolente Amor mi fa.  
Coll' inter poi si ritratta  
Quel che offeso alcuno avrà.

Answer to the last enigma:—Forbici.

#### LITERARY AND LEARNED. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, May 21.—The following degrees were conferred:—

*Masters of Arts.*—Rev. H. W. Bellairs, New Inn Hall; Rev. C. R. S. Cocks, T. F. Twemlow, Christ Church; T. D. Bernard, Exeter College; Rev. P. R. Robin,



Brasenose College; B. E. Winthrop, Wadham College; H. W. Sulivan, Balliol College; Rev. E. C. Evans, Oriel College.

*Bachelors of Arts*.—H. J. Dixon, St. Mary Hall, Grand Compter; T. Scott, A. Oakley, New Inn Hall; J. W. J. Bennett, A. H. Smith, St. Edmund Hall; H. Symonds, B. M. Gane, Magdalen Hall; R. W. Lowry, J. F. Lowry, C. H. Sale, T. Wright, C. Torkington, Brasenose College; J. L. Moody, J. H. King, J. Fletcher, J. M. Grealey, St. Mary Hall; J. G. Hawkins, Scholar, W. F. Sweet, J. J. Trollope, H. E. Devey, Pembroke College; W. Rogers, G. J. Davis, Exeter College; H. T. Price, Jesus College; F. C. Twemlow, Oriel College; F. W. Gamett, Balliol College; C. Cookson, G. W. Ashworth, University College; C. Penny, Worcester College; W. D. Stent, Wadham College; I. Morgan, Trinity College.

CAMBRIDGE, May 20.—The following degrees were conferred:—

*Honorary Master of Arts*.—T. C. W. S. Rice, Trinity College.

*Master of Arts*.—R. L. Tottenham, St. John's College; J. S. Howson, C. Mayor, Trinity College; T. K. Bowyear, Caius College; H. R. Smythies, Emmanuel College.

*Bachelor in the Civil Law*.—J. D. De Skelton, Trinity Hall.

*Bachelors of Arts*.—J. E. Yonge, R. Williams, A. B. Simonds, E. Balston, R. H. Tuck, King's College; W. B. Strong, R. S. White, H. H. Stretell, G. N. Vansittart, C. Ibbotson, W. A. Cross, B. Crompton, Trinity College; O. J. Williamson, R. Tindall, R. E. Monis, G. Guining, W. M. Kerr, St. John's College; S. A. Cooke, T. J. Burton, St. Peter's College; J. W. Fergusson, Caius College; A. E. Rogers, C. J. Shebbear, G. Eller, Queen's College; J. Thornton, W. Harker, Catharine Hall; E. F. Manby, Christ's College; B. Dixie, Emmanuel College.

#### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

HUDSON GURNEY, V.P. in the chair.—Mr. Gurney exhibited a cast of the seal of the Earl of Derby and the Countess of Richmond, Lord and Lady of the Liberty of the Honor of Richmond, temp. Henry VII.—The Dean of Hereford exhibited a model of the head of a bishop's crook, or pastoral staff, discovered in Hereford Cathedral in the year 1813, resting on the shoulder of a skeleton, with a ring, and the leaden seal of a papal bull. These relics were preserved in the library of the cathedral, whence they were stolen in 1838, and the model was made from a drawing. The Dean considered the remains to be those of Trellie, bishop of Hereford in the reign of Henry III.—Mr. Halliwell's paper 'On certain Events in England in the Reign of Edward IV.' was concluded.—Mr. Cottingham exhibited a drawing of an ancient painting discovered on the wall of Canterbury Cathedral, on removing the pulpit, with the costume of the thirteenth century.—Mr. Thoms communicated a paper 'On the Connexion of the Early Drama of England and Germany,' observing that the English appear to have led the Germans in their taste for the drama; English comedians performed often in Germany, and English plays were translated into the German language; and that an old English play had been the foundation of Shakspeare's "Tempest," and also of a German play.

#### ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

On Thursday, the President, Lord Ripon, and afterwards Lord Colborne in the chair.—The Earl of Clarendon was admitted a member.—Mr. Hamilton read a paper from Mr. Millington at Naples, upon a small bronze figure of Venus Urania (which was upon the table), accompanied by curious pantheistic emblems, which differed from any representation of the Divinity hitherto described. The bronze is of the second or third century, and a curious mixture of beauty and deformity in art.—Mr. Cattermole continued a portion of Dr. Nolan's "Disquisition on the Obelisks of Carnac and Luxor," which he attributes to Amensés, the Pharaoh's daughter who rescued Moses. The meeting concluded with a short notice correcting a mistake in the copyist of Herodotus.

#### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

*Monday*.—Entomological, 8 P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; United Service Institution, 9 P.M.

*Tuesday*.—Linnean, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 3 P.M.; Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.; Electrical, 8 P.M.; Architectural, 8 P.M.

*Wednesday*.—Society of Arts, 7½ P.M.

*Thursday*.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; Zoological, 3 P.M.

*Friday*.—Royal Institution, 8½ P.M.; Botanical, 8 P.M.

#### FINE ARTS.

##### ROYAL ACADEMY.

[Fourth notice.]

123. *SCENE from "A Legend of Montrose."* &c. F. Stone.—The passage in the legend is a very affecting one, and the artist has embodied it in a very striking and interesting composition; it is painted with great care, and with good effect, both as to colouring and execution.

393. *The Eve of the Deluge*, and 509, *The Assuaging of the Waters*. J. Martin.—Two of the most sublime productions of that justly celebrated and original painter's pencil. In "The Assuaging of the Waters" especially, light and motion were never more vividly conveyed to the eye through the medium of art. These again are most powerfully contrasted by the accessories of the dove, the raven, and the drowned serpent coiled round the upper branch of a tree.

415. *The Martyrdom of St. Thomas à Becket*. A. W. Elmore.—We have seen sufficient examples from the pencil of this young artist to excite our admiration and to elicit our praise; neither do we deny the talents displayed in this performance; but we are of opinion that if the title had been "the death" of Thomas à Becket, instead of "the martyrdom," it would have been more suitable to the known character of the prelate in question. All are aware of and allow the atrocity of the deed; and the disgusting details set forth in the quotation are therefore worse than unnecessary.

We have this year been detained longer than usual by the number of pictures of merit of an historical or imaginative character. We are bound, however, to add that the productions in the landscape department of art are entitled to equal attention. Among these, as may well be anticipated, the works of Mr. Stanfield hold a distinguished place; for, wherever those works are found, whether in the palace, the club-room, the theatre, or the private mansion, they cannot fail to excite universal admiration. Our favourites in the present Exhibition are

148. *Ancona, on the Adriatic*. C. Stanfield, R.A.—The completeness of this charming performance as a composition, in distance, middle space, and foreground, must recommend it to the eye of the enlightened connoisseur; as the same qualities, no doubt, recommended the original scene to the notice of the accomplished painter.

13. *Citara, in the Gulf of Salerno, looking towards the Coast of Calabria*. C. Stanfield, R.A.—A picture on a large scale, embracing many—perhaps too many—varied and interesting objects. Redundance, however, is always better than meagreness.

470. *On the Coast, near St. Malo*. C. Stanfield, R.A.—As near perfection as can well be imagined. Simple in character, and exhibiting all the truth and transparency of waves in motion which distinguished the works of the best marine painters of the Flemish School.

185. *Charcoal Burning*. F. R. Lee, R.A.—This faithful painter of the rural scenery of England deservedly occupies some very promi-

nent situations in the present Exhibition. His works always call up interesting associations. Besides that, the title of which we have just mentioned, we were greatly delighted with 360. *Northwick Park*, and 424. *Taking up Trimmer-lines*.

215. *A Saw-pit*, and 273. *The By-road*. T. Creswick.—To the productions of no artist that we know of does the term "picturesque" apply more fully than to those of Mr. Creswick. The first of these examples shews with what simple materials he can work out his purpose; and the last proves his taste in the selection of a spot which well deserves to be visited, although it should lie a dozen miles out of the traveller's direct road.

439. *The Entrance to Hastings, Sussex, taken in 1822*. T. C. Hofland.—First impressions are as important to towns as they are to men, and to no towns are they more important than to those known by the name of "watering-places." The permanent inhabitants of Hastings ought to feel much obliged to Mr. Hofland for the very attractive character which he has imparted to this entrance to their abode.

217. *The Castle of Chillon, on the Lake of Geneva*. J. J. Chalon, A.—We have seen the pencil of this able artist successfully employed on many a lively, many a romantic scene, but this production is the *il penseroso* of art. To the

"Double dungeon wall and wave Have made,"

the bird of sad omen, hovering over disturbed waters of a leaden hue, and the surrounding mountains of a similar dismal cast, are appropriate and well-executed accompaniments.

We have selected these specimens of landscape painting on account, not only of their merits, but of the variety of style which they exhibit. Other works in the same class of art, by Havel, Arnald, Linton, J. Wilson, Charlotte Nasmyth, &c., will also be found well worthy the attention of the visitor.

In composition, character, and colouring, as well as in those accessories which indicate the rank or profession of the individual represented, the English school of portraiture possesses equal claim to distinction. Even the days of Vandeyke hardly presented the rich variety in the last respect introduced by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and so successfully adopted by his successors. The portraits, this year, are rather more thinly scattered than usual; but some of them are of surpassing merit. As to their particular qualities, our limits compel us to leave them to speak for themselves (which they are well able to do), and to content ourselves with simply enumerating a few of the most prominent, viz.

62. *The Queen Victoria, in the Robes of State in which she meets the Parliament*. Sir David Wilkie, R.A.—173. *H.R.H. the Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, in the Robes of the Order of the Garter*. G. Patten, A.—67. *H.R.H. The Duke of Sussex, in the Chair of the Royal Society*. T. Phillips, R.A.—54. *Lord Sudeley*, and 68. *Robert Berkeley, Esq.* Sir M. A. Shee, P.R.A.—14. *His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., Hereditary Earl Marshal of England*. H. W. Pickersgill, R.A.—102. *The Ladies Charlotte, Augusta, and Katherine Scott, Great-grandchildren of the late Lord Chancellor Eldon, with his favourite dog Pincher, a German Spaniel*. (The dog by E. Landseer, R.A.) H. P. Briggs, R.A.—156. *Mrs. Constable*. Mrs. W. Carpenter.—463. *Aplesy House*. The Duke of Wellington explaining to the Compiler of his Despatches the date of that which describes the Battle of Water-

loo. A. Morton.—462. *Charles Dickens, Esq.* D. Macdise, R.A. Elect. — 459. *Mrs. Shelley, Authoress of "Frankenstein," &c.* R. Rothwell.—458. *Mrs. Grottores.* A. Geddes, A.—475. *The Lord Alfred Paget,* and 508. *Mrs. Bateman.* F. Grant: with others by B. R. Faulkner, F. R. Say, J. Hollins, &c.

[To be continued.]

#### THE DELUGE, BY F. DANBY, A.R.A.

WE have had a hurried look at this glorious and sublime composition—a picture in itself making an epoch in art. Mr. Danby has indeed signalled his return to his native land by producing that which would reflect lasting honour on any school and any country. It is impossible to describe this superb work of imagination, or its effect upon the beholder. Not only is the general impression appalling, but every part of the awful scene speaks to the heart. The desolating elements, comet, water-spout, whirlwind; the pallid light; the upturn rocks; the dread groupings of thousands of human beings, in every form of struggle and agony; all that is natural and supernatural thrown together with wonderful force, yet finished and beautiful in the details. Such are a few of the most striking merits of this painting, to which even at this late hour we hasten to pay the tribute of a necessarily brief, but most hearty eulogium.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Illuminated Atlas of Scripture Geography: a Series of Maps, delineating the Physical and Historical Features in the Geography of Palestine and the Adjacent Countries; accompanied with an Explanatory Notice of each Map, and a copious Index of the Names of Places.* By W. Hughes, F.R.G.S. London, 1840. Knight.

THIS title-page fully describes the nature of a publication, of which we need say no more than that it is extremely well done, and possesses, by its merits, strong claims on the favour of all readers of Scripture.

*Giulia Grisi.* Negelin del.; F. C. Lewis sculp. Mitchell.

A GOOD resemblance, and a portrait of much elegance and taste. It has been engraved by Mr. Lewis with his usual skill.

*A Scrub.* Painted by W. Hunt; Engraved by J. Egan. Moon.

IF every body who laughed at Mr. Hunt's whimsical drawing when it embellished the walls of the Gallery of the Society of Painters in Water-colours, were to purchase an impression of this clever plate, it would prove to the publisher one of the most profitable speculations of the day. Mr. Egan has not only preserved the expression of the original, but has imitated the free, forcible, though somewhat scratchy style of Mr. Hunt's execution, with marvellous exactness.

*Panic-Struck.* Painted by W. Hunt; Engraved by H. J. Ryall. Ackermann and Co. ONE of Mr. Hunt's whimsical ideas, well-suited to be a companion to the above. The elongation of the features in the shadow on the wall, occasioned by the position of the candle (the flame of which seems itself to be in a state of great alarm), is a finely aggravating circumstance of the scene.

*Portraits by Count D'Orsay.* Mitchell.

WE have seen several recent productions from this noble artist's pencil, viz. *Lords Normanby and Fitzharris, Mr. Guthrie, &c.* In addition

to the quality of likeness, they have that certain air of refinement and *haut ton* with which the Count cannot help imbuing his heads.

*Original Studies of Animals.* Drawn from Nature by Thomas Landseer. Part I. Dobbs and Co.

THE name of Landseer renders it unnecessary to add that this little publication is full of spirit and character.

#### Ricauti's Rustic Architecture. Part I. Templeman.

YOUNG ladies and young gentlemen are fond of talking of "Love in a Cottage." In such cottages as those represented in this pretty little publication, we can easily understand that Dan Cupid would gladly take up his abode. They shew the pleasing effect of rough wood, thatch, &c., when applied by the hand of taste, as the only decorations of rural buildings.

#### ORIGINAL POETRY.

##### THE LAND OF THE NORTH.

By Charles Mackay.

THE lands of the East may exult in the sun,  
That rises amid them, chief pride of their story;  
The lands of the West,  
Where he sinks to his rest,  
May boast that they share in the beams of his glory;  
And the South may be proud of its evergreen bowers,  
And its breezes that sport all the year among flowers,  
But bright though these lands, are they better than ours?  
No!—send the bold shout o'er the universe forth,  
That Valour and Enterprise dwell in the North!  
We care not that sunshine is rare in our skies,  
That fog is our guest, and the pole is our neighbour,  
The generous soil,  
Yields us wealth when we toil,  
And Virtue and Health are a blessing of Labour.  
The sky may be bright over Liberty's grave,  
Spontaneous the soil in the land of the slave,  
And the heart may be cold where the orange-trees wave;  
So we send the bold shout o'er the universe forth,  
That Freedom was born 'mid the cold of the North.

#### THE DRAMA.

*Haymarket Theatre.*—On Saturday, a tragedy, by Mr. Serjeant Talfourd, entitled *Glencoe*, and founded on the massacre which connects that name with everlasting infamy, was produced here with success. We are unable to enter into critical details till next week, when we hope to do justice to the poet and the performances.

*Miss Kelly's Theatre.*—All who remember Miss Kelly's impersonations in domestic and pathetic drama (and who that has been any time a playgoer does not?), will be rejoiced to hear of her return to the stage, and the establishment of her theatre and dramatic school. From an oversight, we did not get our card till too late to pay proper attention to the performances this week, and can only say, that the theatre is a very convenient and pleasant saloon, and that the proprietress is as effective as ever in the *Serjeant's Wife*, which has been the principal part of each evening's entertainment.

#### VARIETIES.

*Caricatures.*—Three new H. B.'s raise his number to 640. The first are "Wood-be-Conservatives," viz. Lord Howick and Mr. Wood agreeing to vote against their old friends, the "Whig-radicals," who have "accepted their resignations" so unreluctantly. We cannot speak to the noble scion of the Grey house, but Mr. Wood's likeness is not like. The next is a caricature of the Post-Office envelope, in which Wellington, O'Connell, Lord Montagu, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, &c., whimsically take the parts of Mulready's figures, whilst Lord Palmerston personates Britannia flying off despatches to all quarters of the globe. The

last is "St. George and the Dragon;" Lord Stanley being the saint, and O'Connell the dragon, in whom is not forgotten the tail, which

"Like a wounded snake drags its slow length along."

It is a spirited performance.

A penny caricature of the new Post-Office envelope, from a design by Moll-Rooney, R.A.M., is full of humour. The travesty of the figures is most laughable. We advise every body to get a copy or two: it is a capital scrap-book and album article, and as cheap as dirt.

*German Literature.*—Mr. August Hirsch, from the University of Berlin, delivered at Willis's Rooms, St. James's, on Thursday the 21st inst., the first of his second series of annual lectures upon German epic poetry. The audience were numerous and appeared very attentive. This lecture consisted of some of the best selections from the well-known "Kinder und Hausmährchen" of Grimm, the beauties and genius of the language of which were elegantly elucidated by Mr. H. who appears to be a perfect master of his subject. Mr. H. distributed a verbal and interlinear translation of his selections, which, no doubt, proved of great advantage to that part of his auditors who might not have been very far advanced in the study of the language; and by this means they had an opportunity of perusing the selections at their leisure after the lecture. We are happy to find that Mr. H.'s second lecture (next Thursday) will comprise selections from the "Nibelungenlied."

*Statistics.*—The following striking view of the important question which so much agitates the country has been handed to us:—

"Comparative Statement of the Wages paid to Mechanics, Manufacturing Operatives, and Agricultural Labourers, in the various Countries from whence Bread Corn could be exported in times of plenty; and the Wages paid to similar Work-people in Great Britain, 1839."

Average of the Wages per day paid	In Osters.	In Poland & Russia.	In Spain.	In Denmark & Germany.	In France.	In Great Britain.
To a Mechanic.....	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
To a Manufacturing Operative...	1 2	1 8 1 3	1 4 2 7	1 3 1 0	1 4 1 8	1 4 1 8
To an Agricultural Labourer.....	0 4	0 5 0 7	0 9 1 2	1 1 0		

From whence it will be seen that the agricultural labourer in Great Britain is paid nearly three times as much wages as the average (7½d. per day) of the above countries; the manufacturing operative, about one third more than the average (1s. 1½d. per day); and the mechanic and artisan, about one half more than the average (1s. 9½d. per day).

Brompton, May 1840.

LEWIS KENNEDY."

*Horror of Indecision.*—A judge down west was lately so equally and strongly divided in opinion upon the question, whether robbery was cheating or borrowing, that he fell in two.

On removing the pulpit of Rochester Cathedral, last week, a curious fresco painting was discovered on the stone wall behind. It is in tolerable preservation, and represents several figures. The bishop's throne has also been taken away, by which the fine proportions of the choir, as well as the carved corbels which were concealed by it, are beautifully developed.—*Oxford Herald.*

*Sir Sidney Smith.*—This gallant officer has died at Paris, aged 76.

*Institution of Civil Engineers.*—The conversation at Mr. Walker's (the President), on Wednesday evening, was very numerous and brilliantly attended. We could hardly tell whether the rooms were most adorned by rank or

science; but we are sure it was very gratifying to see them so mingled together. As usual, the refreshment tables were profusely and elegantly spread; and the company, after enjoying the inspection of many curious inventions, models, &c., did not take the parting chat and glass till the chimes of midnight sounded from the neighbouring abbey of Westminster.

"*Lean's Engine Reporter*," published at Marazion, in Cornwall, has the following announcement:—"The number of pumping-engines reported this month is fifty-two. They have consumed 4218 tons of coal, and lifted 42,000,000 of tons of water ten fathoms high. The average duty of the whole is, therefore, 55,000,000 of pounds lifted one foot high by the consumption of a bushel of coal!"

*Charter House Square Infirmary*.—The anniversary of this truly humane and benevolent institution, this week, was well attended, and a liberal subscription announced. Mr. Salmon, the surgeon, whose exertions in this cause can never be too highly panegyrised, addressed the company with great feeling, and stated the progress and prospects of the Infirmary. Without going into details, we will simply say that there is not a charity in London which more needs, or better deserves, the public patronage. No pathetic or wrought description can paint the pain and misery it is its object to mitigate or cure; and no individual who has a sense of sympathy for the sufferings of his fellow-creatures can but imagine these without putting out his hand to alleviate them.

*Royal College of Surgeons*.—We are glad to see a fresh spirit of activity in this respectable body. Three annual studentships, each to be held for three years, with 100 guineas per annum, have been instituted; and three assistant-surgeons in the army, navy, and East India Company's service, are held out as prizes to the most deserving. The anatomical triennial prize has also been raised from thirty to fifty guineas.

*Improvements in Carriages*.—It is always with satisfaction we notice the progress of improvements in the useful arts; and, among these, we may mention an emendation on carriages, for which Messrs. Prior and Co. have taken out a patent. On examining these handsome vehicles, we are immediately convinced of the advantage which has been gained by altering the mode of mounting and fixing the forewheels; in consequence of which there is more safety in turning, and less space required. The wheels are also allowed to be larger, and much ease thus given to the motion. Without describing all the points, however, of axles, perchbolts, &c. &c., we shall merely state that, for convenience and beauty, these new modifications appear to us to be of great value.

*The Société Libre des Beaux Arts*, Paris, at their annual general meeting, held on the 10th of May, awarded a silver medal to Mr. Godwin, jun., as author of a work on the "Churches of London." We always approve highly of these international compliments.

## LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the Press.

The Papers and Correspondence of the late President of the Horticultural Society, T. A. Knight, Esq., and also Letters of some of the first Botanists and Naturalists in Europe. The Editors are George Benthall, Esq. Secretary to the Horticultural Society, and Dr. Lindley.

### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Life of T. Burgess, D.D., late Bishop of Salisbury, by J. S. Harford, Esq. 8vo. 16s. History of England, by Mackintosh, Wallace, and Bell, Vol. X. (completing the work), fcap. 6s.—Shetland and the Shetlanders, or the Northern Circuit, by Miss Sinclair, post 8vo. 9s.

Judgment in Error in the Case of Stockdale v. Hansard, by the Court of Common Sense, fcap. 4s.—The Music of Nature, with curious and interesting Illustrations, by W. Gardiner, 2d edition, 8vo. 18s.—Solitary Moments: Poems by E. Hoare, fcap. 4s. 6d.—Memoir of the Rev. T. Mathew and the Rise and Progress of Temperance in Ireland, by Rev. J. Birmingham, 8vo. 1s.—Shaw on the Development and Growth of Salmon Fry, 8vo. 2s. 6d.—Massinger's Plays, with Notes by Gifford, 3d edition, 8vo. 13s.—Picture of New York, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Livy, with Notes by H. Twiss, Vol. 1, 8vo. 9s. 6d.—The Educator, by W. Martin, first series, 2 vols. 18mo. 7s. 6d.—Emily; or, the Countess of Rosendale, by Mrs. Maberly, 3 vols. post 8vo. 11s. 6d.—Woman's Love, &c.; or the Fugitives, by the Hon. E. Phipps, 2d edition, 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s.—Memoirs of the Duchess of St. Albans, by Mrs. C. B. Wilson, 3d edition, 2 vols. post 8vo. 16s.—Sir J. E. Alexander's Western Africa, 2d edition, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s.—The Act for the Abolition of Arrest, by E. Ings, 12mo. 3s.—Mrs. Maxwell's Lady's Guide to Epistolary Correspondence, 32mo. 1s.—Notes on the Romans, by A. Barnes, post 8vo. 4s. 6d.—History of Providence, by Alexander Carson, fcap. 5s.—Englishman's Library, Vol. IX.: Rev. F. E. Page's Tales of the Village, fcap. 3s.—New Practice of the Courts of Law, by W. Bagley, 12mo. 8s.—Liturgy, Episcopacy, and Church Ritual, by Dr. W. Laud, 18mo. 5s. 6d.—Rev. G. B. Sandford's Letter to Hon. and Rev. G. Spencer respecting his Conversion, 12mo. 4s.—Stephen Dugard, a Novel, by the Author of "The Five Knights of St. Alban's," 3 vols. post 8vo. 11s. 6d.—The First Book of the Pianoforte, 18mo. 1s.—Freeling's South-Western Railway Companion, 18mo. 1s. 6d.—De Porquet's Spanish Tresor, 18mo. 4s. 6d.—Notes and Recollections of Sermons, by the Rev. J. G. Breay, 12mo. 6s. 6d.—Creeuz's Treatise on Naval Architecture, 4to. 12s.—Lectures on the Revival of Religion, 12mo. 4s.—Theocratic Philosophy of English History, by the Rev. J. D. Schomberg, 8vo. 12s.—Dialogue between a Popish Priest and English Protestant, by M. Poole, N.E., 12mo. 3s. 6d.—The Works of Beaumont and Fletcher, 2 vols. medium 8vo. 24s.—Ciceron's Epistolarum ad Atticum, with English Notes, 2 vols. 12mo. 14s.—Bees, Pigeons, Rabbits, and Canary Birds, by P. Howell, 18mo. 1s.—Tendency to Association, in Mankind, by J. Dunlop, 12mo. 5s.—Travels to the City of the Caliphs, by J. R. Wellsted, 2 vols. 8vo. 25s.—Chart of Inheritance, &c., by W. B. D. Gentone, 2s. 6d.—Magazine of Domestic Economy, Vol. V. 8vo. 6s. 6d.—The Correspondence of W. Wilberforce, edited by his Sons, 2 vols. post 8vo. 35s.—Rev. J. Bingham's White Works, 2 vols. 8vo. 8s.—Stillinger's Antiquities of the British Churches, new edition, 8vo. 9s. 6d.—Encyc. Metropolitana, Miscellaneous and Lexicographical Division, Vol. XI. 4to. 21s. 2s.—The Law and Practice as to Costs, by G. B. Mansel, 12mo. 9s.—O. Winslow's View of the Work of the Holy Spirit, 18mo. 3s. 6d.—History of the Celtic Language, by L. Maclean, 12mo. 6s.—Narrative of the Persecution of the Christians at Madagascar, by Rev. J. J. Freeman and Rev. D. Johns, 12mo. 6s.

## METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1840.

Day.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 14	From 49 to 67	29.63 to 29.55
Friday .. 15	49 to 56	29.38 to 29.35
Saturday .. 16	50 to 60	29.34 Stationary.
Sunday .. 17	46 to 61	29.32 to 29.49
Monday .. 18	45 to 61	29.50 to 29.84
Tuesday .. 19	45 to 45	29.94 to 30.07
Wednesday 20	31 to 59	29.96 to 29.95

Wind, south on the 14th, south-west on the 15th, south on the 16th, south-west on the 17th and following day, north on the 18th, and north-west on the 20th. Except the afternoon of the 14th, cloudy, with frequent showers of rain; distant thunder in the north-west about 6 P.M. on the 15th; also vivid lightning and heavy thunder in the east and south-east on the morning of the 17th. Rain fallen, 91 of an inch.

Day.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 21	From 36 to 55	30.07 to 30.16
Friday .. 22	40 to 59	30.21 to 30.25
Saturday .. 23	33 to 61	30.23 to 30.15
Sunday .. 24	31 to 60	30.09 to 29.96
Monday .. 25	54 to 64	29.73 to 29.80
Tuesday .. 26	42 to 57	29.72 to 29.84
Wednesday 27	36 to 67	29.91 to 29.93

Wind, north on the 21st and 22d; south-west on the 23d and two following days; on the 26th, west in the evening, and north-west in the afternoon; the 27th, south-west. Except the afternoons of the 21st, 23d, and two following days, generally clear: rain fell on the 24th and two following days. Rain fallen, 19 of an inch. Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Friend to Truth and Justice" is informed that we never interfere with contemporary criticisms. It is enough for us to attend to these qualities in our own Journal.

The letter of "A Subscriber" from Trimley, respecting the Jews, &c., is returned to his address: there being much more information on the subject by recent arrivals.

Several interesting publications have reached us too late for notice this week.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

**THE SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION** of the NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS is now open, at their Gallery, 53 Pall Mall West (adjoining the British Institution), from Nine o'clock till Dark. Admissions, 6d. Catalogue, 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Hon. Secretary.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.**  
**THE First Examination for the Degree of** Bachelor of Medicine is appointed to commence on Monday, the 6th of July next. The Certificates required must be transmitted to the Registrar fourteen days before the Examination begins. By order of the Senate, R. W. ROTHMAN, Registrar.  
Somerset House, 20th May, 1840.

**RESTRAINTS ON MARRIAGE.**—At a Meeting of parties aggrieved by the existing restrictions on Marriage, held at the Office of Messrs. Crowder and Maynard, No. 23 Mansion House Place, London, on Thursday, the 21st of May, a Committee, consisting of seven of the gentlemen present, was appointed (with power to add to their number), to take the necessary steps for obtaining a repeal of the objectionable restrictions upon Marriage, and more particularly that which prohibits marriage with a deceased Wife's Sister; and it was resolved, that the objects of the meeting should be forthwith published in such of the London and Provincial papers as the Committee might think proper, with a view to obtain the active co-operation of all parties interested.—Communications to be addressed to Messrs. Crowder and Maynard, as above.

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**ALISON'S EUROPE.**  
On the 10th of June will be published, Volume Eighth, of **THE HISTORY of EUROPE; from the** Commencement of the French Revolution to the Restoration of the Bourbons.  
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